



TALCON

NEWS MAGAZINE

**The Freedom not to
Speak is also Sacrosanct**

AVILA UNIVERSITY VOLUME XIV ISSUE 5

In This Issue – It Should Be You

Donna Jungman

In this issue you will find a reprint of some of the articles that deserved much needed airtime. The writers have put a lot of effort into their stories and we need to give them the full credit by reprinting their stories.

You will find three sections of the new issue the first will an overview of the campus life featuring upcoming events, student organization profiles, sports updates, and arts and entertainment. The second section will be the reprints from

the previous issue. The third and final issue will be filled with opinions, letter to the editors, and a few beliefs. Please remember everyone is entitled to their own opinion. Do not judge your fellow peers, co-workers, students, or professors for speaking their mind. They voiced their opinion. Did you? Take these opinions and beliefs in to consideration and compare them your opinions and beliefs. It can only make you stronger. The more you question something the stronger you believe in it.



Reflection

Max Thompson

We are asked to make important decisions in our life. These decisions could seem miniscule to others, but they could change the landscape of an individual's world. We can choose to listen to those around us, and we can block out the voices that want us to fail. We can accept common boundaries, or we can make our own. In any instance, there will always be people that don't understand. I know that college for many students is about going through the motions, and trying to maximize the fun along the way. I have spent my three years in a department that has always asked me to challenge common practices, and I have made every effort to do so. The Talon is an outlet for many students to face the issues that trouble them, to raise awareness on a stage many of them can't get anywhere else. It doesn't matter what you think of The Talon, it's capturing a greater audience with each issue. The larger audience poses more questions and offers more opinions, and the broader view of the world gives the paper a voice for the Avila student.

While there are members of The Talon staff that strive to objectively report the

news, the majority of submissions in the paper come from students who just want to say what's on their mind. It's not the Wall Street Journal, the Kansas City Star, or the Daily Kansan. There are essentially five people that do the majority of the work to produce a minimum of 24 pages. If that were the case, then 80% of the submissions would then have to be rewritten entirely. The focus of the paper has changed to reflect the voice of the student. It's been nearly a year since those changes were made, and the paper is more popular than ever.

That being said, we all make mistakes, and we all try to learn and grow from them. We make decisions that we hope will provide the best possible outcome for our readers. Sometimes people don't like what's being written, and they're entitled to their own opinion. We don't mind negative feedback, it gives us an opportunity to examine the way we operate.

We hope this issue represents the voice of the Avila student, and we would love to know what you think. Better yet, if you feel like it needs improvement, come join the staff and put your signature on it.

AROUND AVILA

MARCH/APRIL

Steer Dinner Volunteers:

The Steer Dinner needs volunteers for its 30th Annual event. The Steer Dinner will take place on Mar. 25, from 4-11 p.m. at the InterContinental Hotel (formerly known as the Fairmont). Each volunteer will receive dinner and a free T-shirt. There are many positions available, contact Laura Wichman for more information at laura.wichman@avila.edu or at 816-501-3696.

Recital:

Sun., Mar. 26, Voice Recital Dr. Amity Bryson, soprano 3 p.m. Foyle Hall Chapel

CAREERS IN BUSINESS:

Thurs., Mar. 30, 5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m., Marian Alumni lounge Informal Panel of local professionals will share/ represent a wide range of career opportunities and career paths in the field of business and will answer questions students have. Part of Happy Hour: Thirsting for Knowledge Series.

GET YOUR TEAM READY FOR AVILA FIELD DAY: Are you ready for some fun and friendly competition? Do you want to help support Avila Athletics? Well now you can do both! The annual Avila Field Day will be taking place on Sat., Apr. 8, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon in The Quad. Teams of 5-10 will compete in a series of team games, trivia games, a hot dog eating contest and more! Afterwards, we will head over to the athletic fields to cheer on the Eagle baseball and softball teams in the afternoon. Registration packets available in the Office of Student Life after Mon., Feb. 20. Questions? Contact Brad Lewis at lewis96@Avila.edu. Sponsored by the Office of Student Life, Avila Athletics, and GAP.

Art Gallery:

Fri., Mar. 31, Thornhill Art Gallery Opening "All Women, One Word" Reception 5-8 p.m. DONATIONS FOR THE WOMEN'S STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ALL EVENTS.

Beta Beta Beta is a national biology honor society. The Avila chapter, named Pi iota, has been in existence since 1998. Anyone can participate in Tri-Beta activities, but the organization celebrates members who have taken 3 biology courses or more and earning a 3.0 in those courses. The Induction and Recognition Ceremony for these folks was held on February 22 in O'Rielly Hall at 5:00 p.m. The students recognized as full members were Alexander Muensch, Brian O'Donnell, Mohammed Rabile, Christina Welch, and Dusty E. Werth. The guest speaker was Dr. Peter Gegenheimer of the Department of Molecular Biosciences of the University of Kansas. In addition to the Induction ceremony, students will have the opportunity to attend the regional Tri-Beta meeting at Camp WaJaTo near Lyons, Kansas from April 7-9, 2006.

New Master's Degree

The School of Psychology will launch its new Master's degree program in Counseling and Art Therapy in Fall 2006! Email Maria Hunt for more information, or contact Cyndi.

Student Scholar Day:

Apr. 13, from 8-3 p.m. in Whitfield Conference Room.

During the month of April we will be selling Easter candy bags. Various pieces of candy will be enclosed in a decorative Easter bag. These treats will be sold for \$1.00 and will help the psychology club and Psi Chi offset some of our expenses traveling to our annual psychology conference in May.

Psi Chi / Psychology club was challenged through their national office of Psi Chi to contribute to the Hurricane Relief funds. Our members pulled their own funds together, answered this challenge, and presented their advisor Dr. Maria Hunt with an envelope of there collected funds. She In-turn handed it over to the High School in Louisiana that she attended and was destroyed during the hurricanes Katrina and Rita. At the time of presenting the envelope to the high school, Drs. Ralph and Maria Hunt pledged to match those funds for each month during the calendar year of 2006. The proceeds will help re-build lives and possessions that were lost during the devastating hurricanes of 2005.

Student Teaching:

Mon., Apr. 17, Mandatory Student Teaching Meeting (for those wishing to student teach in the Spring 2007 Semester) Whitfield Conference Center 6:00-7:30 p.m. Mon., Apr. 24, 2006 Mandatory Internship Meeting (for those wishing to intern in the Spring 2007 Semester-are already teaching or assured of a position with a district for that semester) Hodes Education Building-Room 700 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Harmony Month

Katrina & Chequila

Tuesday, March 21, 2006, 7:00 p.m., Marian Centre Eagle’s Nest Chequila Daniels will be speaking about her experience as a Louisiana resident during Hurricane Katrina. Throughout the week, there will be collection boxes across campus for continuing Hurricane Katrina relief.

Know Your Limits...What You Need to Know About Sexual Boundaries in Relationships

Wednesday, March 22, 2006, Marian Centre Barefoot Room
MOCSA (Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault) will talk about what you need to know about sexual boundaries and the realities of sexual assault.

Japan 101

Thursday, March 23, 2006, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Marian Centre Alumni Lounge
Japan...What is this country really like? Learn all about Japanese culture, language, and attractions. Enjoy free SUSHI. Part of the Happy Hour: Thirsting for Knowledge Series.

Mary Lightfine: A Nurse Without Boundaries

Thursday, March 23, 2006, 6:30 p.m. Reception, Program at 7:00 p.m., Whitfield Conference Room
After working sixteen years in emergency rooms throughout the United States, Mary Lightfine, a nurse, pilot, and a self-professed adrenaline junkie, decided to join an organization called Doctors Without Borders. Join Mary to learn about her adventures, and how this decision changed her life. Program sponsored by the Multicultural Affairs Committee, GAP, ASNO, RHA, Wellness, and Student Senate.

BSU Blackout Dance

Friday, March 24, 2006, 8:00 p.m., Whitfield Conference Room
This is a Social event and fundraiser supporting African American awareness. There is a \$5 entrance fee or \$3 if dressed in all black. Hors d’oeuvres provided. Sponsored by BSU.

Voice Recital

Friday, March 26, 2006, 3:00 p.m., Foyle Hall Chapel
Dr. Amity Bryson, soprano, will perform a voice recital. Sponsored by Women’s Studies as a celebration of Women in the Arts.

Crash Screening

Tuesday, March 28, 2006, 7:00 p.m. ,Marian Centre Alumni Lounge
Campus Ministry will sponsor a screening and discussion of the film Crash.

Dr. Bertice Berry - World Class Comedian, Author, & Lecturer Video Presentation

Wednesday, March 29th, 5:00 p.m., Marian Centre Alumni Lounge
Feel the Odds are Against You? Find Your Purpose at School, at Home, and in the Community. Learn motivation and inspiration from an ultimate goal-setter. Stay focused on achievement even when the odds are against you. Balance your life with humor and focus.

Learning Disability Simulation

Thursday, March 30, 2006, Noon – 1:30 p.m., Helmes Room
Most of us have heard of learning disabilities. But how many of us truly understand the challenge of living with a learning disability? The Horizon Academy Parent Group will facilitate this learning disability simulation to help us understand what it feels like to have a “hidden handicap”. RSVP’s for this program are required. Please contact Student Life at 501-3660 to RSVP.

“All Women, One World”

Friday, March 31, 2006, Reception 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., Thornhill Art Gallery
Sponsored by Women’s Studies as a celebration of Women in the Arts.

Did You Know? Some ‘Firsts’ For Women

* Frances Perkins was the first woman to serve in a presidential cabinet, Appointed Secretary of Labor by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933. She remained in office until 1945.

* Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), the House Democratic Leader, is the first woman to lead a major party in Congress.

* The first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate was Rebecca Latimer Felton (D-GA), appointed in 1922.

* The first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives was Jeannette Rankin (R-MT), who served from 1917-1919 and again from 1941-42. A pacifist, she was the only person to vote against U.S. entry into both World Wars. (Don’t you think she would have been a Democrat today?)

* The first woman of color in Congress was Representative Patsy Mink (D-HI) who served from 1965-1977 and again from 1990 until her death in 2002. An Asian-American, Mink was a leader at a young age, as an officer in Young Democrats of America and a pioneer for Title IX which

enhanced women and girls participation in education and athletics.

* The first African-American woman in Congress was Shirley Chisholm (D-NY), who served from 1969-1983. In 1972, Chisholm ran for president in the Democratic primaries. At the party’s national convention, she won 151.25 delegate votes.

* Loretta Sanchez (D-CA 47) and Linda Sanchez (D-CA 39) are the first sisters to serve together in Congress.

* Nellie Tayloe Ross (D-WY) was the nation’s first woman governor, picked by her party to run in 1925 after her husband died. Her two-year term began 15 days before Miriam (Ma) Ferguson (D-TX) became the second woman governor, elected as a stand-in for her impeached husband.

* Governor Janet Napolitano (D-AZ) is the first woman to succeed another woman as governor of a state.

* Governor Kathleen Sebelius (D-KS) is the first woman governor whose father (John Gilligan, D-OH) was also governor of a state.

Census Facts for Women’s History Month

By the U.S. Census Bureau

In 1981, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women’s History Week. The week was chosen to coincide with International Women’s Day, March 8. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress has passed a resolution for Women’s History Month, and the U.S. president has issued a proclamation.

147.8 million

The number of females in the United States as of July 1, 2003. That exceeds the number of males (143.0 million). Males outnumber females in every five-year-age group through the 35 to 39 age group. Starting with the 40 to 44 age group, women outnumber men. At 85 and over, there are more than twice as many women as men.

Earnings

\$30,724

The median annual earnings of women ages 15 and older who work full time, year-round. After adjusting for inflation, earnings for these women declined by 0.6 percent between 2002 and 2003 — their first annual decline since 1995.

Military

215,243

Total number of active duty women in the military, compared to 1,219,134 men, in 2003. Of that total, 34,796 women are officers, 178,428 are enlisted and 2,019 are enrolled in military academies.

1.7 million

The number of military veterans who are women.

16%

Percent of Persian Gulf War (1990-91) veterans who are women. In contrast, women account for 5 percent of World War II vets, 3 percent of Vietnam vets and 2 percent of Korean War vets.

\$2.9 million

Estimated work-life earnings of women with a professional degree (i.e., medical, law, dental or veterinarian) who work full time, year-round. For women, like men, more education means higher career earnings. It is estimated that women without a high school diploma would earn \$700,000 during their work lives, increasing to \$1 million if they had a high school diploma and \$1.6 million if they had a bachelor’s degree.

Sports & Recreation

2.9 million

Number of females who participated in high school athletic programs (Table 1243) in the 2002-03 school year. In the 1972-73 school year, only 800,000 females were members of a high school athletic team.

76 cents

The amount women, who worked full time, year-round, earned for every \$1 their male counterparts earned. This amount is down from 77 cents for every dollar in 2002.

Education

31%

Percent of women ages 25 to 29 years who had attained a bachelor’s degree or higher in 2003, which exceeded that of men in this age range (26 percent). Eighty-eight percent of young women and 85 percent of young men had completed high school. The last year young women and men had equal rates of high school and college attainment was 1995.

Motherhood

82.5 million

Estimated number of mothers of all ages in the United States. (From unpublished dated.)

44%

Percent of all women of childbearing age (15 to 44 years old) who are childless. Seventy-one percent of these childless women participated in the labor force.

26%

Percent of women who have obtained a bachelor’s degree. This rate has increased nearly 7 percentage points in the past decade.

774,000

The projected number of bachelor’s degrees that will be awarded to women in the 2004-05 school year; women also are projected to earn 293,000 master’s degrees in the 2004-05 school year. Women would, therefore, earn 57 percent of the bachelor’s and 58 percent of the master’s degrees awarded during this school year. (These two percentages are not significantly different from one another.)

85%

Percent of women age 25 and over who have completed high school. For the second year in a row, women have had a higher rate of high school completion than men (84 percent).

Jobs

60%

Percent of women 16 and over who participated in the workforce in 2003. Men in this age range had a participation rate of 74 percent.

34%

Percent of women 16 and over who work in professional specialty or executive, administrative and managerial jobs, compared with 30 percent of men.

20.3 million

Number of female workers in education, health and social services industries. More women work in this industry group than in any other.

BSU Continues To Serve

Eric Marrero-Hunt

The Black Student Union (BSU) is a group known to a considerable amount of people. BSU hosts an event called “Gospel Fest,” and has an exceptional turnout every year. Ask Johnny Turnage; the current BSU President, what the biggest event is and he’ll state the same.

What is the worst event planned by BSU while you have attended Avila? Turnage was more than reluctant to answer and

gave a nervous smile and replied, “There haven’t been any ‘worst’ events.”

Turnage feels the majority of students at Avila appreciate the BSU group and black history in general. Turnage feels more participation from students much welcomed and much needed. The Gospel Fest has been a big hit every year it has taken place. There are many other upcoming events that will take place in BSU hands.

Gap Provides Bridge

Dani Asher

Would you like to be a part of the social events of the season? Well look no further than GAP. You could say that GAP is Avila’s premiere events planner. GAP stands for Group Activities Programming and it does just that. GAP is a student run and led organization. Faculty advisor Jason Baldwin claims, “This is a great group because it gives Avila students a chance to plan, promote, implement, and evaluate an event.” Its purpose is to plan events and programs to meet the co-curricular needs of the entire student body. President Regina Maddux adds that their goal is to “bring fun to campus and give students something to do.”

Did you belt out your favorite 80s tune or love song on January 26th? That event was put on by the people of GAP. Did you cheer your favorite team on to victory in the Eagle’s Nest during the Super Bowl? This was also brought to you courtesy of Avila’s event planning organization. One student said “I do not usually enjoy the activities put on by GAP, but I had fun at the Super Bowl party.”

Regina Maddux has been involved with GAP since her freshmen year. Regina’s favorite GAP sponsored activity is the Comedy Central comedian who performed in the Eagle’s Nest last year. “I like when the comedians perform during dinner,” says Rachel Boley. Another student said “I was really entertained by the comedians that performed last year. I would also be

interested in seeing more up and coming bands perform here. The Scratch Track band was really lame though.”

Junior Caitlin Stephenson dubbed the hypnotist her favorite activity; “The hypnotist is the best because it is funny and because people do stupid things.” Another student in favor of GAP is Nicole Williamson, “They have pretty good activities that attract my attention, but I am not able to participate because of athletics.”

Jason Baldwin has been involved with the organization five years and with each year, participation has risen. GAP encourages students to attend meetings held in the Marian Center on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m., as well as provide input. Here is a list of GAP sponsored events coming up for the remainder of this semester:

Mary Lightfine: Nurse Without Boundaries - March 23rd, 7pm, Whitfield Conference Room

9-Hole Miniature Golf Course - March 30th, The Quad

Wax Hands - April 5th, 11:30am to 2:30pm, The Quad

Mad Chad Taylor (Chainsaw Juggler) - April 6th, 12-1pm, Mabee Field House

Avila Field Day - April 8th, 10am to Noon, The Quad

Spring Dance - April 8th, 8pm to Midnight, Marian Dining Room

Bandfest - May 2nd, Goppert Theatre

SCOP Preparing 2006 Edition

Kayle Walker

Avila’s student led newspaper has recently struggled with not meeting the standards of the Avila values. This may pose a problem for other Avila student led productions, such as the SCOP, the university’s student literary magazine.

Editor Keri Weister, does not believe the magazine will run into any complications with content.

“I understand it’s a private campus, but we are also a liberal arts institution and no one is purposely trying to offend anyone,” Weister said.

The SCOP’s editors are looking to express interests of students today and are going to give credit to good quality pieces even if they are a bit racy.

The SCOP accepts submission from both students and faculty in four main topics; playwriting, poetry, fiction and non-fiction. Each category decides on the best piece that receives a hundred dollar prize. Deadlines for this year’s submission were on Feb. 15 in hope that the magazine will be published in the first week of April.

After a piece is submitted it goes through the editing process. The editing staff, which consists of eight Avila students, read all the pieces and pick the ones that stand out the most to them. They then collaborate to pick the top five in each category. This year’s staff has two main editors and four editors for each category. Keri Weister, Editor; Mitra Young, Co-Editor; Steven Fountain,

playwriting; Stephanie Lawrence, poetry; Sheila Battin, fiction; and Tom Sullivan, Non-fiction. The pieces are then sent to the English department staff where they select their favorite pieces. The faculty consists of Professor Stanley E. Banks, Nancy Cervetti, Mary Etta Benson, Jenny Heller and Kelli White, all of which donated the hundred-dollar prize money.

“SCOP is a great way for an aspiring writer to build some confidence and begin a portfolio,” Sullivan said. “I would encourage any Avila student to submit something.”

Copies of last year’s SCOP are available free of charge in the English department in Borserine. Also, be sure to be on the look out for this year’s addition of the SCOP in April.



Ministry Pushes Beyond First Impression

By Amy Schwarz

When first hearing of the group Campus Ministry, a certain idea comes to the minds of some Avila students.

“When I hear Campus Ministry I think of a church youth group,” Reagan Klinge says.

Religion is the first thing that comes to the mind of junior Eric Reeves. Campus Ministry is not all about religion. Campus Ministry encourages anyone from any faith or no faith at all to participate in events.

“Campus Ministry activities are for everyone and there is nothing to join. If you want to participate with us, all one has to do is show up. You can come to as many or as few events and services as you want to,” says sponsor Dave Armstrong.

The group offers faith building activities such as Bible Fellowship, which is offered at least once a month. Campus Ministry also offers other activities not directly related to religion, but getting to know other Avila students, and members of the surrounding community. These include pizza nights, retreats, and community nights.

“One of our favorite community nights is going once a month to the Villa Ventura Living center for bingo with the residents. They enjoy it and we enjoy being there with them hearing their stories and learning about their lives,” says Armstrong.

Most of Campus Ministry activities are free. This makes the activities a great time with friends without having to ask parents for money, or work extra hours at a job.

Campus Ministry’s biggest event is the annual Snow Creek mini retreat. The day begins with spiritual ice breakers and finishes up with skiing, lasting until 3 a.m.

“It is a blast for everyone and a great way to get to know others at Avila,” Armstrong says.

Campus Ministry is a group that focuses on spiritual values, but does not try to push religious beliefs on any participants. If you are looking for a good time, come to a meeting or an upcoming event. Campus Ministry meets every Monday night at 6 p.m. in the Barefoot Room in the Marian Center.

A strong supporter of campus ministry, Sister Ellen Mary Gavin, passed away on Saturday, February 11, 2006. With her death she leaves us with a beautiful story. “On Friday many of her community sisters were gathered around her and noticed that her eyes were sparkling. She turned and said to them all that tomorrow the Blessed Mother was going to come and take her. It was that next day, at 4:40 p.m. that she was indeed ‘taken.’ It was special as well because it was the anniversary of the day she entered the community of the CSJs.” from Dave Armstrong.

Avila Field Day is back! The 4th Annual Avila Field Day promotes community between Avila students, faculty, and staff as well as the surrounding community. This event creates a sense of pride and school spirit that allows us to reach out to the university as well as a local charity.

Registration packets can be picked up in the Office of Student Life in Marian Centre and all packets must be completed and returned no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, March 24th. Contact Bradley Lewis, Graduate Assistant in the Office of Student Life, for more information! lewis96@avila.edu.

Social Workers Show Patience

Jasmine Williams

Social work is a profession that provides support and resource that people and families can use. Being social worker can be a challenging profession. The student's in The Student Social Work Association of Avila University are not actually in the field. The only person that is actually in the work environment of social work is the President Jennifer Baston and the Vice president.

The advisors for the association include Lindee Peterson Wilson the Assistant Professor of Social Work. And Susan Hutchison Chair of Social Science Division. From the history of these two social workers, you can take this profession and go in many different directions. You can get

a job in a child welfare, family counseling, corrections, community organizaing, disability are some of a few examples of the roads you can take.

Some of the challenges depend on the job you take. For example a social work position can deal with juvenile offenders. Working with children can challenge any person, not just a social worker. A parent is a form of a social worker, by that they support their children in any and everything that they choose to do.

So in conclusion it takes a real patient person to handle others kids. You have to be aware that they are people with feelings as well.



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Betting Mania Accompanying Tournament Costs Businesses Plenty

By Diane Stafford
(KRT)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Jim Holland, like an estimated 58 million Americans, has filled out his "March Madness" brackets.

But the Kansas City lawyer is understandably mum about whether he wagered on the outcome of the NCAA college basketball tournament.

That's because he's an employment law attorney at Fisher & Phillips who counsels employers to prohibit March Madness pools in the workplace.

Holland's professional advice is sound. That's because such betting technically is illegal, ever since the first President Bush signed the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act.

But Holland, off the clock, also is realistic. Most employers aren't likely to ban the ubiquitous March ritual.

For one thing, it's exceedingly rare for police or prosecutors to pursue participants. Not even the Internal Revenue Service is likely to chase down office pool winners for a share of the cash pots.

And there are a host of workplace consultants who say office pools help foster camaraderie and high morale — two qualities that sometimes are in short supply

in nose-to-the-grindstone, policy-laden workplaces.

But the fun does come at a cost.

One of those nationally recognized workplace consultants, John Challenger, chief executive of the Chicago-based outplacement firm of Challenger, Gray & Christmas, calculates the cost of March Madness-related lost productivity in U.S. workplaces.

This year, Challenger predicts it will be worse than ever, thanks to a CBS decision to offer free online viewing of tournament games involving teams from outside those local markets. The restriction on online viewing of local teams is designed to encourage viewers from the Kansas City area, for example, to watch the Kansas Jayhawks on television.

Challenger estimates a whopping wage and productivity loss to employers as high as \$3.8 billion over the 16-day tournament.

It was a cost that began seconds after last Sunday's bracket announcement and

For more information go to thetalon-online.com

Campus Buzz



Professor Meade meets his mentor, Noam Chomsky during February visit.



Who Is This Masked Man?



A special Open Mic Night was held at Barnes and Noble on the Plaza on February 22. Students from the Presentational Speaking class and Joe Snorgrass presented readings on “This I Believe.” Stanley Banks served as host of this event and his class presented poetry for the standing room only audience. Stanley Banks also welcomed a host of other poets from a round Kansas City to share poetic their reflections.



Kari Donnell-Clevenger
2006 Hall of Fame Inductee
Attended Avila 1996-2000
4 year starter
1st Team MCAC All Conference '97-'98, '99-'00
NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete
Avila school records held: Career Assists (634), Career Steals (368), Average Minutes Per Game (38.5)

Student Recognition Ceremony Planned

On Saturday April 29 at 3:00 PM a Student Recognition Ceremony will be held in the Whitfield Center. The Ceremony recognizes some of the outstanding students and groups on campus. Contact Joe Barnhill for additional information.

OMC On the Case

At the 2006 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District VI conference in St. Louis, Jan. 24, Avila won the coveted Sweepstakes Award for schools with 1,000–2,999 students. This is the second time in three years that Avila has won Sweepstakes.

In addition to the Sweepstakes, Avila received the following awards:

- Excellence in Graphic Design - “Into the Woods” poster – OMC – Bronze Award
- Excellence in Advertising – MBA Print Ad Series - OMC – Bronze Award
- Excellence in Fundraising Materials – Steer Video – Viscom and OMC – Silver Award
- Excellence in Publications Produced on a Budget – Math Postcard – OMC – Silver Award
- Excellence in Logo Design – Athletic Logo – OMC and Athletic Department – Silver Award
- Excellence in Graphic Design - “Picasso” poster – OMC – Gold Award
- Excellence in Writing – Theatre Brochure – OMC – Gold Award
- Excellence in Fundraising Special Events – Steer Dinner – OMC and Advancement Office – GRAND GOLD AWARD

There are eight states in District VI that include Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

In this year’s competition, over 70 schools submitted more than 1,000 entries.



Nez and Kim working in the Talon Room

Girl Scouts Remain Steadfast

Avila University hosted the Sports Sampler Badge Day for Junior Girl Scouts (4th-6th grade) on Sat., Feb. 25, with 147 girls from 20 troops participating in the event. The troops were from the Greater Kansas City Area; troops traveled from Concordia and Clinton, Mo. The event was set up to have the girl scouts to go through workstations that represented the requirements for the Sports Sampler badge. They had to learn about the importance of warm-up and cool down stretching (3 skills in all of our women's sports) common sports injuries and how to treat them, and perform a cheer routine taught by Avila's Cheer Team. The girl scouts had the opportunity to ask our athletes questions about themselves and their sport.

"This year's badge program was my 10th. I began these programs in 1996 with the School of Science and Health. From 1996-2003, we presented the badge Science in Everyday Life. Once I moved to the Athletics Department, I made the suggestion for this program because of how it would tie in with the NAIA Champions of Character program the Athletics Department sponsors each year," Office Manager of Athletics JoAnn Immele said.

Through the Champions of Character Program, Avila athletes are required to perform community service each year. This Girl Scout Badge Program enables all of our women's sports teams to participate as one unit for a community service project. Some of the women's teams have other community service projects they participate in, but this is "the big one" for our female athletes.

All of the feedback the athletics department received from the troop leaders was very positive. Throughout the day's events they approached Immele to say the Sports Sampler Badge was the most well organized event sponsored for girls they had ever participated in. The troops expectations were very high and Avila not only met them, but also exceeded them. All of the girls who registered received a souvenir t-shirt and a souvenir patch for their Girl Scout vest. The t-shirts were a great hit with the girls because of what the back said:

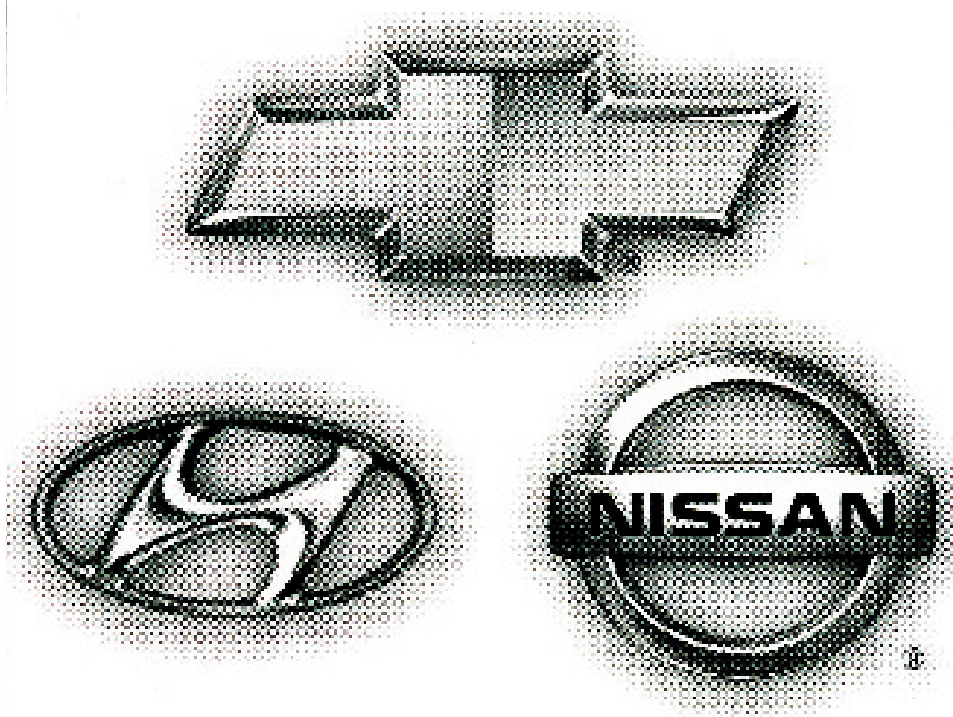
....Sending a message to girls everywhere that sports are for everyone.

The playing fields are open and the game is on!



Congratulations to the following students that will be speaking at the 30th Annual Steer Dinner, Mar. 25, 2006 at the Intercontinental Hotel.

**Andrea Francis
Shelly Fisher
Donna Jungman
Lauren McCarthy
Gayan Peart
Brandon Wilks
David Bower**



McCARTHY
AUTO GROUP

675 N. Rawhide
Olathe, KS 66061

913-324-7200

Intramurals Basketball
Due to student schedules, we have moved this event to a one-day event on Sun. March 26th at 1:00 pm.

It looks like we will have a student team versus a staff/faculty team. Come and join the fun as a participant or just come and watch. Following the game(s) there will be open gym time. Intramurals Open-Gym is March 23rd 8:30-10:30 pm - Open gym fun.

A Night in the Life of Rebecca

Chris Campbell



In the cold chilling hours of the night, Rebecca Dieguez, custodian at Avila University, begins her journey to work. It is 10:00 p.m. and she yawns one last time before her day begins. As she pulls into the school parking lot she sips her coffee to gain energy that she will need. Rebecca's work is long and hard, but does not go unnoticed.

At 10:30 p.m., while most are still sleeping, Rebecca begins her work. When she enters Hodes, the leaves piled inside the doors catch her attention. Sometimes Mother Nature decides to make her job a little more difficult. Rebecca opens the custodian's closet to see if all of her cleaning supplies are on her cart. This time she notices that her vacuum is missing. She heads to the Marian Center to recover her vacuum and hurries back to Hodes.

10:45 p.m. approaches as she gathers other supplies: broom, paper towels, pledge, windex, carpet cleaner, a pair of rubber cleaning gloves, and trash bags. Rebecca takes a drink from the water fountain before the exhausting labor starts. Her first and easiest task is to sweep up the leaves piled inside the doors of Hodes. Next, is perhaps the most time consuming task of all, dusting. Every faculty member's office is to be cleaned, from top to bottom. As Rebecca cleans, she dusts desks, chairs, bookcases, and anything else that might collect dust. Many offices are spotless and some offices require extra attention. As she reaches the last office she begins to sneeze, and sneeze again. Allergies take their toll and she quickly drinks from her water bottle.

11:30 p.m. approaches and Rebecca quickly wipes down each white board in every classroom. In a couple of the classrooms, projectors were left plugged in and Rebecca disconnects them. Silence is broken by the roar of the vacuum as the clock strikes midnight. The loud noise keeps Rebecca alert and on her toes. Soon, all the carpet in Hodes has been vacuumed and it is time to move on to the Montessori School.

Rebecca takes a deep breath and sighs in frustration when she glances at the carpet in the Montessori. This is every custodians living nightmare: drink stains, food crumbs, and hundreds of pieces of gravel tracked in from the playground. On her hands and knees she scrubs to get the drink stains out of the carpet, soda can do a considerable amount of damage. She then takes a broom to sweep up the loose gravel strewn throughout the carpet. Soon she vacuums and the true color of the carpet is revealed.

It is shortly after 1:00 a.m. when Rebecca enters Goppert Theater. She begins with dusting all offices and soon moves on to cleaning the white boards in the classrooms. She notices that an electrical outlet in a classroom does not work and leaves a note for the maintenance department. At 2:30 a.m. it is time for a break. Rebecca uses her break to relax and gather her thoughts. She snacks on a turkey sandwich to regain energy. She is tired by 3:00 a.m. The roar of the vacuum breaks the silence once again. At 4:00 a.m. the vacuuming in Goppert is finished.

Rebecca rushes to the lower level of Borserine to complete her shift. In Borserine she dusts and vacuums a private dining room, as usual it goes well. At 5:00 a.m. she is on the hunt for falling ceiling tiles, a task that makes her job interesting. She uses a broom to sweep up the ceiling tiles that have fallen in the hallways and rooms; this is caused by construction from above. After the tiles are swept up she vacuums the carpet.

It is 6:45 a.m. and Rebecca returns her cleaning supplies to the custodian's office in Hodes. She turns the lights off and locks the door as she leaves the building. She walks to her car and sighs with relief, realizing that another day of work has come and gone. The ride home is tiring and Rebecca turns the radio up to keep her alert. At 7:15 a.m. she pulls in her driveway and yawns one last time.



Angel Disguised as Nurse

Megan Carnes

Carol Frevert is a name often heard but seldom recognized at Avila University. People have to stop and think who she is because the title of nurse usually precedes the more recognizable version of her name.

Frevert is the Director of Health and Child services at Avila University, which means not only is she the sole practicing nurse, but also is the director of child services, and administrates the Montessori school. She is the head chair of the wellness program that heads and organizes numerous activities for Avila's students, as well.

When Nurse Carol walks around campus or when a person stops by her office for cold medicine or some advice, each person is greeted with a smile and an enthusiastic attitude. She is not shy and is more than willing to sit down to talk or try to tackle any problem at hand.

She states over and over, "I love what I do and this what keeps me going each day."

While the majority of students might go to Nurse Carol to get out of class, faculty and staff know her as a fellow coworker. What they do not know might change how they view this incredible woman, perhaps the woman with the biggest heart at Avila.

For 25 years, Frevert has been accommodating to the needs of others at Avila University, as well as various hospitals and Community Health Centers. Each day she puts her own personal needs on hold in order to help our community. She plays any role ranging from the first year student's parent, to an advocate of health awareness, to teacher and caregiver. She steps into these roles every day, never questioning if she is getting back all she deserves, but when looking deeper, it is easy to see that maybe, as a community, we should be giving back to her, praising her, and accommodating to her needs.

Nurse Carol was diagnosed with breast cancer this past September. She found the lump herself at an early stage. After undergoing a biopsy she endured a mastectomy in October, and shortly thereafter started her chemo treatments. She has completed four of the six treatments.

"The first treatment was the hardest, but I am doing them to prevent the spread of the cancer," she explained as tears started to form, "I am just so scared it will spread." The emotion that took over subsided quickly, as Nurse Carol put a smile right back on her face. Her strength is just one of the many attributes that distinguish her from others.

Despite all of the pain, physically and emotionally, she was and is still going through, she insisted on getting back to work and was back with Avila's community within a few weeks, ready to start helping others.

Carol has taken her pain and experience and turned it into something others can learn about and utilize.

"It was amazing to see how many women came to me that wanted to learn more about breast examinations and my experience," she said.

Soon she will be teaching a class in the dorms about personal health awareness and breast examinations.

Listening to her tell her story, it is amazing to see how strong this woman can remain, how spirited she can be about a life of devotion to other people, and most of all, how she has the natural ability to inspire people. The next time you see Nurse Carol walking around campus, do not rush to ask her for a note to skip class, and don't just walk by with nothing to say. Simply stop to talk with her and ask her about her day. You might be that one person that keeps her strong and lifts her spirits, just like she has done for so many students at Avila.



DeRoo

Max Thompson



Laugh it up. The joke is on the Royals and it has been running since the current president's father was in office. In the barbershop they're brooding over the coaching carousel.

"That thing spins faster than Greinke's head after a 2-0 fastball."

In the barbecue joint downtown they're debating the merits of a former closer's argument for joining the rotation.

"Look at the bright side, now he'll get hurt every fifth day instead of every other."

Even a bright spot turns sour on the 14th green.

"DeJesus is really turning into a solid player. Any club would love to have him in their outfield."

"You're right, which is why it won't be long before another team has him. He'll get traded in an effort to keep Sweeney, who will promptly play 90 games a season to justify the move."

John DeRoo hears the jokes every day. He's a native of Kansas City, and a loyal Royals fan since August 23, 1990, when he attended a doubleheader at Kaufmann Stadium at age five. He remembers a victory over the Orioles and a Mike McFarlane home run that would forge a lifetime bond as it cascaded towards I-70.

His desire to root for the hometown team has warped into a love that is all but obsessive. Countless lazy summer days and nights strengthened the bond, but the scorecards and media guides struck a chord that would define much of John's loyalty.

"It really took off in high school," DeRoo explains, "I used to listen to games and mark on my chalkboard. I noted player averages, what publications thought of a player, and tracked progression."

It's really a bit more intricate than that. He marked milestones, memorized all time Royal statistical leaders, season leaders, all stars, and much more. He considers his specialty knowing the details of every world series since 1979. Do you know the Royals' single season home run record holder? John does.

"The number is 36, and it was set by Steve Balboni in 1985."

What about the 1990 opening day starter?

"Brett Saberhagen, a loss to the Orioles by one run. Two years before that was the George Bell game (referring to a loss in which Bell hit three home runs), Saberhagen started that one, too."

His love for the Royals and baseball eventually led him to an internship at Metro Sports, the Kansas City sports cable network. It was there that his knowledge gained a little more notoriety.

"We would spend hours throwing Royals trivia at John, and he got 99% of them right. He knows everything from the leadoff hitter in 1992 to the hitting coach of the Double A Wranglers," Matt Schmidt, a coworker at Metro Sports, says.

DeRoo's statistical efficiency and good-natured attitude spurred reporter Mick Shaffer to produce a feature piece on John

and all his knowledge. The piece was so successful that Fox Sports Midwest picked it up and ran it. Shaffer says DeRoo earned the spotlight.

"John DeRoo has more passion than maybe anybody I've ever seen in this business," Shaffer says, "He's obviously an encyclopedia of sports knowledge and that's always fun testing him and bouncing trivia questions off him. But the best part of having John in the newsroom is his enthusiasm and attitude and passion."

One particular Royals loss displayed John's passion for all the workers at Metro Sports to see. On August 9th last season, the Royals blew a 7-1 lead to the Cleveland Indians. But that's not the whole story. They gave up 11 runs in the ninth inning. This also happened in the middle of one of the longest losing streaks in baseball history.

"I have never seen someone go from happiness to absolute depression so fast. After the game he was so [upset] he told everyone to not talk to him," Schmidt says.

DeRoo explains why the loss hit home.

"I take a lot of pride in how they play and I get really [angry] when they don't play well."

In a world where his favorite team lets him down, the statistics have been his saving grace.

"I don't know everything, and I'll be the first to admit it," DeRoo says.

There are probably a lot of Royals fans that would argue John knows more about the Royals than the man who holds the job John dreams of holding: Allard Baird. John is too modest to ever agree with such speculation.

"To be the general manager would definitely be a dream come true," he says.

It's in this moment when the fruition of his ideas come to life in his imaginary position. His eyes dance and he becomes more animated with each sentence. When he returns from his imaginary office and realizes the time that's gone by, he talks about what it would mean to him to have any position in the Royals organization.

"It would mean a lot, and that they felt confident enough in me to do the job and be accepted."

Maybe if the Royals knew about a guy like John, the organization could make a positive turn toward success by corralling his passion and putting it to work. Just then, a voice chimes in from a bar in Westport.

"They'd have to know how to spot talent first!"

Laugh it up Kansas City. John doesn't think it's funny. If he had any say in the matter, you wouldn't either.

Employees to be Recognized

The following employees are eligible to receive a Service Recognition Award at the May 19, 2006 Faculty/Staff Meeting. Eligible employees include personnel employed at least 1000 hours per year, full-time faculty, and half-time faculty. Please note that an employee is eligible for an award if they were hired by Sept. 1. If the employee is hired AFTER September 1, the employee WILL NOT receive an award until the following year unless the employee has previously been recognized for a milestone anniversary that occurs after Sept. 1.

5th Year
Jason Baldwin
Karen Baum
Karen Cox
Aimee Curtis
Yvonne Fee
Susan Garrett
Margaret Longstreet
Rebecca Nichols
Susan Sherry
Sara Woodward
10th Year
Deanna Angotti
Brian Buckler
Julie Hurd
Benjamin Meade
Susan Randolph
Janet Redmond
20th Year
Carole Hillestad
Patrick Kopp
Laura Sloan
25th Year
Carol Frevert
Ken Stock
30th Year
Bonnie Givens



AVILA AFTER 5



Show Your Avila ID for These Specials

Monday: Buy one get one brew coffee
Tuesday: \$1 off all espresso drinks
Wednesday: Buy one get one brew coffee
Thursday: \$1 off smoothie or ice crema
Friday: Buy one get one brew coffee

*** Valid after 5 pm**



Free Computer Tech Bar
Meeting Table and Fireplace Area Available to Reserve - FREE

**Great Place To Study,
Meet Friends,
or Relax**
Taste the Local Flavor of Dunn Bros Coffee

535 E 11th St * Red Bridge Shopping Center * Next door to Red Bridge theater

A*LIFE An Avila Angel



By Amy Schwarz

A strong supporter of campus ministry, Sister Ellen Marie Gavin, passed away on Saturday, February 11, 2006 at the age of 88. On April 25, Sister Ellen was born in Fairmont, MO. She attended college at Fontbonne University in St. Louis, MO where she received her degree in Elementary Education.

Sister Ellen was a part of the Sisters of St. Joseph. She entered the Sister of St. Joseph on February 11, 1943, and left the exact same day 62 years later.

Sister Ellen was a part of the Avila community for over 25 years. She worked here as a secretary from 1975 to the summer of 2001.

With her death she leaves us with a beautiful story.

"On Friday many of her community sisters were gathered around her and noticed that her eyes were sparkling. She turned and said to them all that tomorrow the Blessed Mother was going to come and take her. It was that next day, at 4:40 p.m. that she was indeed 'taken.' from Dave Armstrong.

I Believe In Giving You My Very Best

Matthew L. Grant

My name is Matthew Lamont Grant and I am a senior at Avila University. I have lived in Kansas City my entire life and have been through many trying and enlightening circumstances during my short time here on this earth. At the age of twenty-three, I try to live by one firm principle, and that is giving your best.

Have you ever had a person change your entire outlook on life or motivate you in an extreme way, by the effort that they put forth? Well I have and I have strived to be that person. I believe in giving your best. This is a notion that I received from my mother and grandmother who are no longer with us. They taught me do your best no matter what it is that you are doing.

If you are a street sweeper, you should try to be the best street sweeper that ever was. If you are an accountant you should push to make sure that, everything is in balance and that your numbers match.

By giving your best would be surprised at how well you feel. I know this may sound cliché but you can truly affect yourself and those around you in a very strong and positive way if you do so. Even the most miniscule action, such as sweeping a street, can have a very heavy impact if you give it your best. I am Matthew Lamont Grant and this I believe.



The Storm is Coming

Josh Nolen

With four seniors leading the way, the Avila University softball team is looking to create some havoc in the Heart of America Athletic Conference.

Anyone can see when these girls get together they are aggressive and mean but they are also fun to be around. Each person on the team is a leader and wants to compete and show other teams in the conference why they deserve to be at the top.

There is no one person on the team that is better than the other. If the starter gets pulled out of the game, her replacement will pick right up where she left off. The team is defensively solid and each bat in

the lineup is not going to be an easy out for opposing pitchers.

With an optimistic outlook on the 2006 season, the girls are looking forward to improving on last year's record of 34-19. With a tough defense, a solid lineup, and speed all around the field, it doesn't appear they will have any problem doing that this year.

"Watch out, we're coming and we are ready to do some damage. With a team full of leaders and aggressive attitudes, I feel sorry for the other teams because the train is ready to leave the station," senior Amy Waltrip said.

Basketball Senior Night



Glitter Girls Performance Glistens

By Monique Bryson

The Glitter Girls worked long and hard, now they're at the end of their season.

The Heart of America Athletic Conference Spirit Team Championship was held February 11th at William Jewell College. Avila's Dance team competed in small Jazz, large Jazz, and Hip Hop against other schools in their conference. They placed first in the small Jazz and second in the large Jazz. They also placed first in Hip Hop. The team Mascot took first place, and the Glitter Girls placed second overall.

Head Coach Cindy Freeman said she didn't have any expectations; she just wanted the girls to have fun and be pleased with what they have done during competition.

"I don't put pressure on what matters or how they should finish," she said, "At Conference we added a small dance number that they learned a week before they left. The girls didn't have a lot of time and preparation for that routine like they did the other dance routines but were amazing with it. The competition [is] always stiff but we never compare ourselves to other teams, we just try to do our best and whatever happens."

Coaches, staff and parents felt the girls danced well.

As a head coach she stated, she never had a team as talented as these girls were. They're smart, academically their grades are incredible, and the freshmen have done wonderfully.

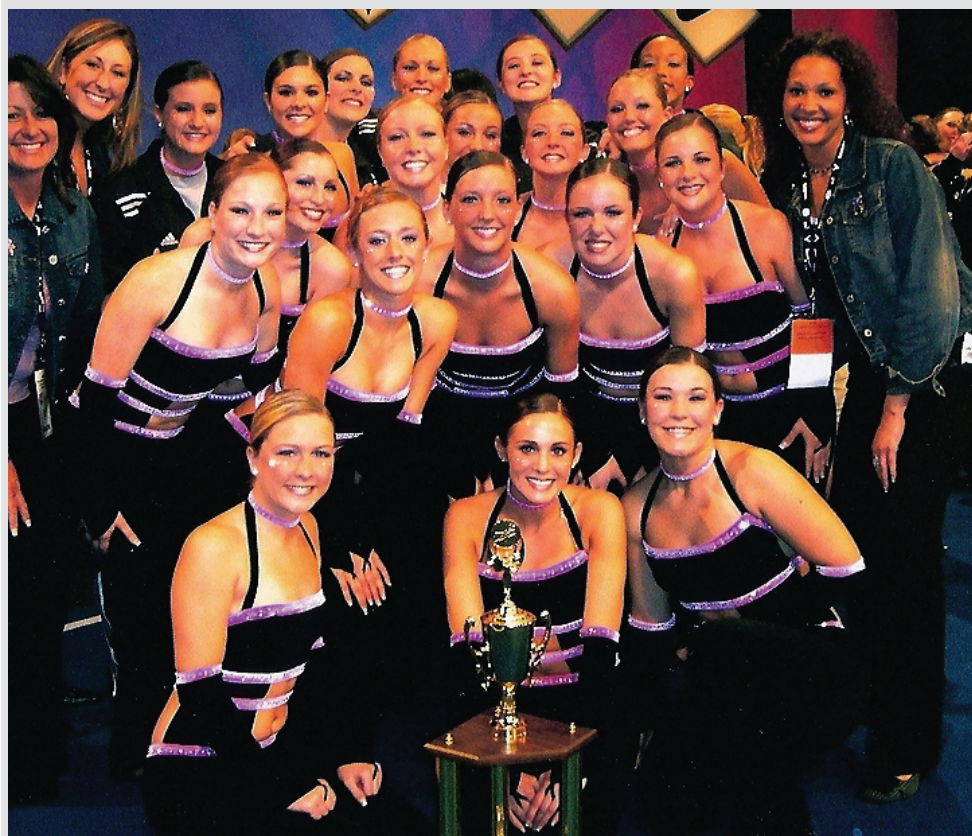
Sarah Smith, a senior on the Dance team said, "With this being my last year, it was fun and exciting. The girls were

amazing and the most talented team. The competition on February 11 was one of the best dance competitions, and the judges were good. At the dance competition the girls were incredible."

"I learned about the girls on a different level. During the summer we had a work out program for strength conditioning which was beneficial to our technique. We had a good season overall. The competition at William Jewell College went smoothly. The seven alternates for the small Jazz did really well. I was pleased with the placements we received," senior captain Donna Jungman said.

The Glitter Girls dance season has ended but will resume in the summer. Cindy Freeman has auditions scheduled for those who are already on campus and interested. Feel free to contact her at 501-2478 or go to her webpage to fill out the questionnaire which shows the team's dance background.

Top row left to right: Head Coach Cindy Freeman, Mandy Freeman, Amy Schwarz, Kylie Gordon, Katie Villa, Raegan Klinge, Rachel Alsbury, Charla Butler, Second row: Ashley Stoneking, Sarah Belton, Jenna, Stacy Lungman, Heather Gentry, Lisa, Third row: Katy Singleton, Kim Bassinger, Daniel Starky, Gigi, Coach Raquel Lathrop, Bottom: Donna Jungman, Christen, Sarah Smith.



A Year Full of Opportunities

Josh Nolen

Before the Avila University Cheerleaders could think about stepping foot on the mats at the National Competition in Orlando, FL, they prepared themselves for a busy year in the summer heat of Knoxville, TN.

The girls drove 12 hours through the starry summer night sky to participate in the biggest cheerleading camp of the year on July 29-30. Avila's cheerleaders competed against schools in Division I & II such as Tennessee, West Georgia, and Kentucky.

The cost of the camp was \$300 per person, but to most of the girls it was well worth the cost. They had a great experience and learned a lot of new ideas. After the completion of the camp the cheerleaders brought home four trophies in the categories Cheer, Sideline, Fight Song, and Most Improved Program.

"Although it was hot in Tennessee, we enjoyed the chance to compete against all of the schools we will see at nationals. We were like little kids in awe of older teams and their legacies," sophomore Bryn Chaney said.

With four events planned on one weekend in September, the girls faced a tiring challenge. Instead of filming their national competition routine at Avila University on Friday night, they videotaped their qualifying routine on the grass of Kauffman Stadium, Home of the Kansas City Royals.

The next day the girls did a car wash for Tint to Match in Kansas City, MO at Applebee's on 103rd and Stateline. The owner of the company contacted the squad to wash cars as a promotion for the window tinting business. The girls were paid a flat fee and they washed high priced cars such as Hummers, BMWs, Mustangs, and sport motorcycles. After they finished the car wash the cheerleaders supported the football team during a home game at Rockhurst High School.

On Sunday morning they began their first year of their contract as the official cheerleaders of the annual Bikers for Babies event held at the Kansas Speedway. The squad cheered as the loud noise of the motorcycles circled the track of the speedway.

The girls prepared two short videos with 1-3 minute sections of routines and skills for nationals. They taped in October and the footage was due the first week of November. Before Thanksgiving break the team received the good news. They had qualified third for the Universal Cheerleading Association National College competition.

Over Christmas break the cheerleaders worked hard on getting the routine down before the UCA National competition on January 11-17 at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, FL. Competing against schools from the camp in Tennessee, the Avila University Cheerleaders brought home a sixth place finish.

"We fell short of our ultimate goal at the national level. Although we did not win the national championship, I am proud of

what the girls have accomplished this year," head coach Jason Sack said.

After nationals, the girls had only one competition left in the spring and that was the Heart of America Athletic Conference Spirit Squad Championships at William Jewell in Liberty, Mo. Despite performing a flawless routine, they placed second behind Lindenwood University.

"It's sad how political it all seems. Yes, Lindenwood is talented, but this year we stepped up and proved we were better. When other coach's squads openly say we deserve first, there is something wrong," senior Marie Shelton said.

On February 25, Avila University's women's athletic teams participated in a Girl Scout Day in the Mabey Fieldhouse from 8-2 p.m. Each team taught the troops a different skill for each sport. After the day was over each member of the troop received a badge to place on their vests.

Now that the bulk of the 2005-2006 cheerleading season is over, the squad has more things to accomplish before the end of the school year. One event is the 2006 High School Stuntfest at Avila University on Saturday, April 2.

The Eagles are expecting Kansas City area schools such as Grain Valley, Lee's Summit West, William Chrisman, and Shawnee Mission West, to participate in this one day clinic. The high schools perform in three stunt classes ranging from beginner to elite. The Avila squad teaches the squads a variety of stunts that follow the guidelines of the Missouri and Kansas rules. After the completion of the camp each girl receives a t-shirt and high school seniors can perform pyramids such as the "Hi Mom." The Stuntfest also allows the high coaches to become certified after taking test administered by varsity reps.

After the Stuntfest the girls will judge spring tryouts for high schools in the Topeka, Louisburg, and Blue Springs areas in which they will get paid.

"This was definitely our busiest year. It was tiring but they stuck it out to the end. One of the things I look forward to is the maturity of the team. Each year they continue to bond with each other and grow as a team," Sack said.



Practicing for Nationals

Baseball Schedule

3/22 Wed. Lindenwood University 1:00 p.m. St. Charles, MO
 3/25 Sat. Central Methodist University 1:00 p.m. Kansas City, MO
 3/28 Tues. Missouri Valley College 1:00 p.m. Kansas City, MO
 4/1 Sat. Benedictine College 1:00 p.m. Kansas City, MO
 4/2 Sun. Benedictine College 1:00 p.m. Atchison, KS
 4/7 Fri. Mid-America Nazarene 1:00 p.m. Olathe, KS
 4/8 Sat. Mid-America Nazarene 1:00 p.m. Kansas City, MO
 4/14 Fri. Baker University 5:00 p.m. Baldwin City, KS
 4/15 Sat. Baker University 1:00 p.m. Kansas City, MO
 4/22 Sat. Graceland University 1:00 p.m. Lamoni, IA
 4/23 Sun. Graceland University 1:00 p.m. Kansas City, MO

Softball

3/6 Mon. Ottawa University 1:00p.m. Kansas City, MO
 3/8 Wed. Graceland University 1:00p.m. Kansas City, MO
 3/11-19 Spring Break Trip TBA
 3/22 Wed. Evangel University 2:00p.m. Kansas City, MO
 3/25-26 Sat. Gault/Avila Tournament TBA Blue Springs, MO
 3/28 Tues. Baker University 2:00p.m. Kansas City, MO
 3/30 Thurs. William Jewell College 2:00p.m. Liberty, MO
 4/2 Sun. Lindenwood University 2:00p.m. St. Charles, MO
 4/5 Wed. Mid-America Nazarene 4:00p.m. Olathe, KS
 4/8 Sat. Culver-Stockton College 2:00p.m. Kansas City, MO
 4/11 Tues. Missouri Valley College 3:00p.m. Marshall, MO
 4/19 Wed. Benedictine College 3:00p.m. Kansas City, MO

Women's Golf

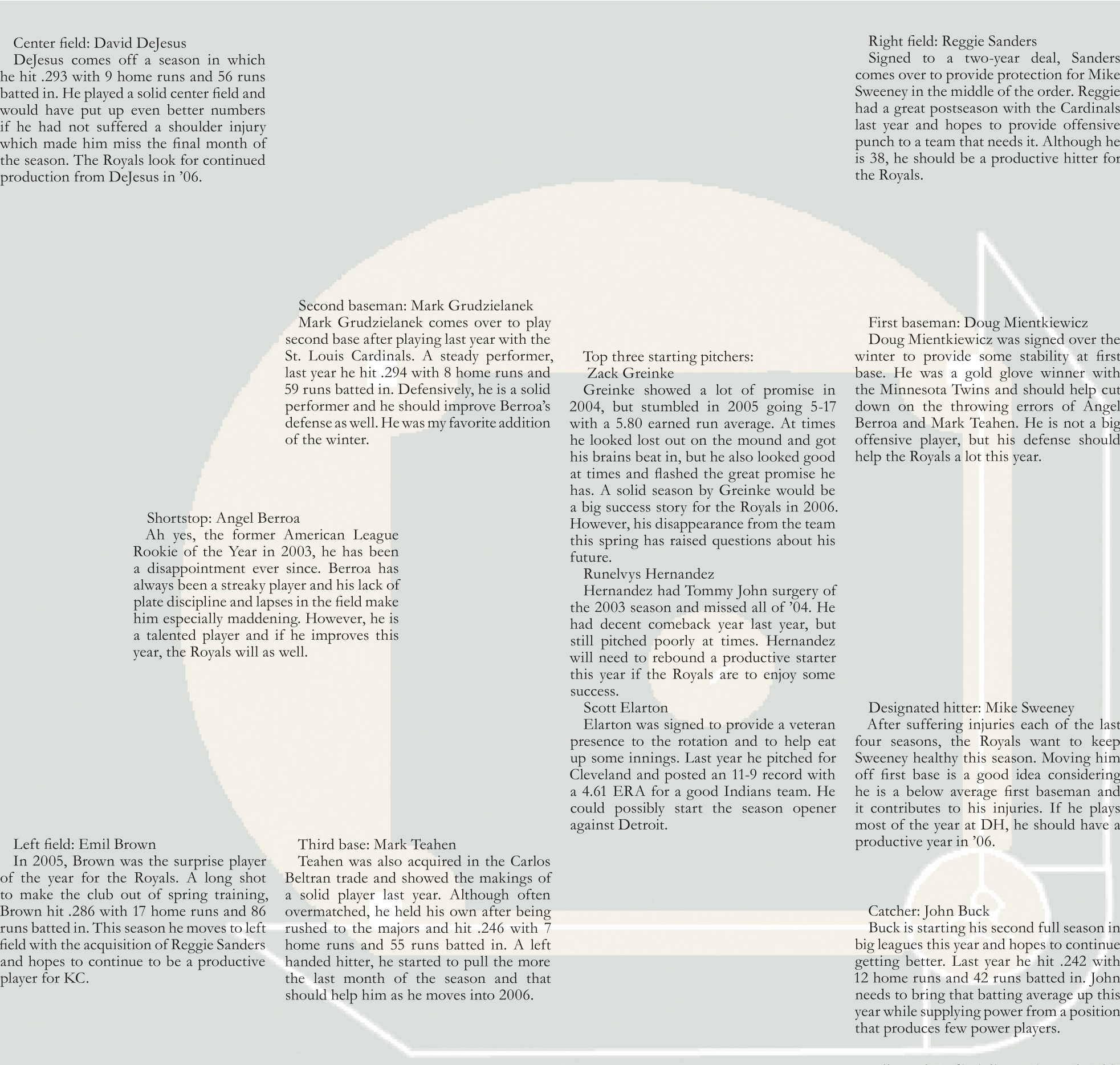
3/22 Wed. Rockhurst University TBA Liberty, MO
 3/27-28 Evangel University TBA Springfield, MO
 3/31 Fri. Avila University Spring Invitational TBA Kansas City, MO
 4/7-8 William Jewell College TBA Liberty, MO
 4/10-11 Park University TBA Parkville, MO
 4/20 Thurs. Northwest Missouri State University TBA Maryville, MO
 4/23-25 Conference Tournament TBA St. Charles, MO



Avila Cheer Squad at Bikers for Babies

Stay in the know. Visit
www.thetalon-online.com
for the latest, most up to
date news coverage from
campus and the world.
Updated frequently. Sign
up for daily email updates.

The Kansas City Royals are getting ready for their 2006 season. After coming off a 106-loss season last year, the Royals made several changes to try to get better. Here is a position by position preview of the '06 Royals.



Center field: David DeJesus

DeJesus comes off a season in which he hit .293 with 9 home runs and 56 runs batted in. He played a solid center field and would have put up even better numbers if he had not suffered a shoulder injury which made him miss the final month of the season. The Royals look for continued production from DeJesus in '06.

Right field: Reggie Sanders

Signed to a two-year deal, Sanders comes over to provide protection for Mike Sweeney in the middle of the order. Reggie had a great postseason with the Cardinals last year and hopes to provide offensive punch to a team that needs it. Although he is 38, he should be a productive hitter for the Royals.

Second baseman: Mark Grudzielanek

Mark Grudzielanek comes over to play second base after playing last year with the St. Louis Cardinals. A steady performer, last year he hit .294 with 8 home runs and 59 runs batted in. Defensively, he is a solid performer and he should improve Berroa's defense as well. He was my favorite addition of the winter.

Top three starting pitchers:

Zack Greinke

Greinke showed a lot of promise in 2004, but stumbled in 2005 going 5-17 with a 5.80 earned run average. At times he looked lost out on the mound and got his brains beat in, but he also looked good at times and flashed the great promise he has. A solid season by Greinke would be a big success story for the Royals in 2006. However, his disappearance from the team this spring has raised questions about his future.

Runelvys Hernandez

Hernandez had Tommy John surgery of the 2003 season and missed all of '04. He had decent comeback year last year, but still pitched poorly at times. Hernandez will need to rebound a productive starter this year if the Royals are to enjoy some success.

Scott Elarton

Elarton was signed to provide a veteran presence to the rotation and to help eat up some innings. Last year he pitched for Cleveland and posted an 11-9 record with a 4.61 ERA for a good Indians team. He could possibly start the season opener against Detroit.

First baseman: Doug Mientkiewicz

Doug Mientkiewicz was signed over the winter to provide some stability at first base. He was a gold glove winner with the Minnesota Twins and should help cut down on the throwing errors of Angel Berroa and Mark Teahen. He is not a big offensive player, but his defense should help the Royals a lot this year.

Shortstop: Angel Berroa

Ah yes, the former American League Rookie of the Year in 2003, he has been a disappointment ever since. Berroa has always been a streaky player and his lack of plate discipline and lapses in the field make him especially maddening. However, he is a talented player and if he improves this year, the Royals will as well.

Designated hitter: Mike Sweeney

After suffering injuries each of the last four seasons, the Royals want to keep Sweeney healthy this season. Moving him off first base is a good idea considering he is a below average first baseman and it contributes to his injuries. If he plays most of the year at DH, he should have a productive year in '06.

Left field: Emil Brown

In 2005, Brown was the surprise player of the year for the Royals. A long shot to make the club out of spring training, Brown hit .286 with 17 home runs and 86 runs batted in. This season he moves to left field with the acquisition of Reggie Sanders and hopes to continue to be a productive player for KC.

Third base: Mark Teahen

Teahen was also acquired in the Carlos Beltran trade and showed the makings of a solid player last year. Although often overmatched, he held his own after being rushed to the majors and hit .246 with 7 home runs and 55 runs batted in. A left handed hitter, he started to pull the more the last month of the season and that should help him as he moves into 2006.

Catcher: John Buck

Buck is starting his second full season in big leagues this year and hopes to continue getting better. Last year he hit .242 with 12 home runs and 42 runs batted in. John needs to bring that batting average up this year while supplying power from a position that produces few power players.

Top reserve: Matt Stairs

Matt Stairs is the Royals top pinch hitter and role player. He can play first base, DH, or the outfield when the regulars need time off. He probably won't get 500 at bats a season, but if used correctly, he should provide offense at a spot the Royals could use consistently during the season.

Top two relievers

Closer: Mike MacDougal

MacDougal regained his closer form last year after a tough 2004. He was an All-Star in 2003 and recorded 27 saves in his rookie year. Last year he went 5-6 and recorded

21 saves in 25 opportunities. He had good control last year, 24 walks in 70.1 innings and recorded 72 strikeouts. The Royals need good production from him again this season to be successful.

Middle relief: Ambiorix Burgos

Burgos was rushed last season and suffered some bumps in the road. However, he showed flashes of brilliance at times and showed he could be an above average reliever. He throws hard with a mid 90's fastball and has a hard slider. Progress from Burgos is a big key for KC in '06.

Top three prospects

Third baseman: Alex Gordon

The number two overall pick in last year's amateur draft, Gordon went to the University of Nebraska. A left handed hitter, Gordon projects to have 25-30 HR power and play a solid third base. The Royals may move him to the outfield because of Mark Teahen, but Gordon is a blue chip prospect who should be the face of the team for many years to come.

Outfielder: Billy Butler

Butler was drafted out of high school in 2004 and projects as a tremendous hitter. He offers 35-40 HR power and has

excellent plate discipline. His work ethic is great and does all this at the tender age of 19. Butler is not a good defensive player, but his bat is something special and should help the Royals for a long time.

First baseman: Justin Huber

Huber was acquired in 2004 from the New York Mets in exchange for infielder Jose Bautista. Drawing comparisons to Mike Sweeney, Huber projects to hit 20-25 home runs a year and drive in close to 100 runs. A converted catcher, Huber is still learning first base and will start the year at Triple-A Omaha. He also factors into a big part of the Royals future.



David DeJesus



Mark Grudzielanek



Reggie Sanders



Zack Greinke



Doug Mientkiewicz



Angel Berroa



Runelvys Hernandez



Mike Sweeney



Emil Brown



Mark Teahen



Runelvys Hernandez



John Buck



Matt Stairs



Mike MacDougal



Ambiorix Burgos



Alex Gordon



Billy Butler



Justin Huber

If You Change Your Attitude, Success And Happiness Will Flow

(KRT) The first step in any fresh start begins with attitude.

Whether you want to be more organized or be a better employee, it all starts with outlook. A positive attitude not only makes goals easier to accomplish, but it's also the source of happiness.

Happiness starts with one's self, say Jack Jonathan and Sheelagh G. Manheim, authors of "Yes, You Can ... Find More Meaning in Your Life."

And when you have a positive attitude, it affects the people close to you, Jonathan says.

Here are a few ways to trade in your half-empty glass for one that's half full:

Smile _ Try to look for the beauty and treasures around you. Do you return smiles? Jonathan says smiling at others is a small gesture that can brighten your day.

Mind and body _ It's important to know that the body affects the mind and vice versa. With a healthy body comes a healthy mind, Jonathan says. It's important to make sure both are healthy and cared for because it affects how you feel.

Be inspired _ Take time to enjoy something beautiful, whether it's the sunrise, the sunset or birds in flight. Allow yourself to be inspired and try to block out the outside world. Jonathan and Manheim say that taking a small mental recess will divert your attention from stress factors. More attention paid to problems can make them seem bigger.

Introspection _ Gain a better understanding of yourself by asking yourself questions, Jonathan says. How do you feel? How does your body feel? What is bothering you? What influences your mind? What do you feel good about? List these things and think about how to change what needs to be changed and how to continue doing the things that make you happy.

The 3-by-5 rule _ No problem is so big it can't be cut down to smaller, digestible problems. Jonathan says 3-by-5 cards can help you organize your thoughts and deal with them better. The problems you define during introspection can be defined on the cards. Write down the things you want to overcome or an inventory of your assets. If there is a habit you want to break, like spending too much money, keep a card in your wallet that has a question on it like, "Do I need this?" or "Will I get my money's worth?"

Use what you have _ Manheim says her dad taught her that it's not what you have it's how you use it. And that isn't restricted to material things. Sometimes it's about utilizing your personality or your talents to their full potential. If you learn to do that, it can make a big difference in how you feel.

No Pets Allowed!

Emily Fryer

The door to the wire cage dangles from its hinges, and the furry, little inhabitant appears missing. There are no signs of foul play, so the morning seems a reasonable time to initiate Operation: Search and Rescue. However, screams of fear and confusion echo throughout the residence hallways, as men and women race to the tops of couches, chairs, and tables yelling, "It's a mouse; it's a gerbil! No, it's a hamster!" Lighting is scarce because the once cute and cuddly little creature has turned monstrous. It has chewed through the electrical wires and proceeds to antagonize residents. As chaos sets in, guilt and frustration bombard your mind.

While scenarios such as this are a little far-fetched, rules and regulations regarding pet ownership in the residence halls are in effect to protect students and animals. The 2005 Avila Student Handbook clearly states, "Small fish in bowls and aquariums (maximum capacity of ten gallons) are allowed in student rooms. No other pets are permitted in the residence halls (54)." Avila University enforces this rule, not because of a dislike for animals but, for safety, security, and sanitation purposes.

According to Tim Bosler, a staff member of the Student Affairs Department, "[Animals] must live underwater to be permitted into student rooms; this excludes turtles, frogs, lizards, and any organism that is not submerged in water for its entire life. However, besides small fish, hermit crabs are welcome."

Sanitation is a primary concern regarding pets in the residence halls. Many students suffer from pet-related allergies and, allowing animals in living quarters might exacerbate medical problems. Also, residence halls do not have proper disposal systems for pet waste; therefore, it could lead to an accumulation of "unwanted" products and odors.

The safety and security of students and animals is another major concern. Again, while pet-related allergies and various medical conditions play an enormous role in prohibiting pets in the dormitories, animal rights, also, influence the existing policy. There is simply no sanctioned ground for animals and, it seems rather unfair to contain certain animals for personal benefit.

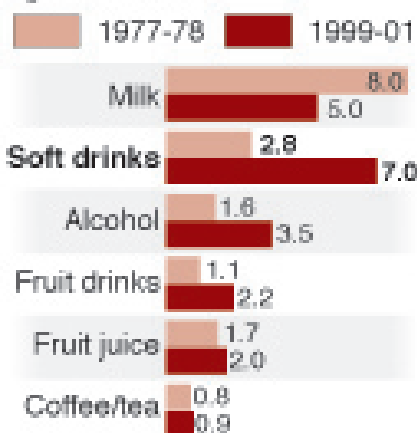
It appears that students have not publicly disapproved of the current pet ownership policy. Tim Bosler confirmed that "no comments or problems" had been expressed to him with regards to owning pets in the residence halls. Some students, on the other hand, admit that they would enjoy owning pets, besides small fish. They do not necessarily want larger animals in student rooms but, animals such as hamsters or turtles, seem appropriate.

Avila University's pet ownership policy protects students and animals. It does not completely prohibit all organisms from living in the residence halls. Nevertheless, it does restrict the quantity of animals and the types of animals that are allowed.

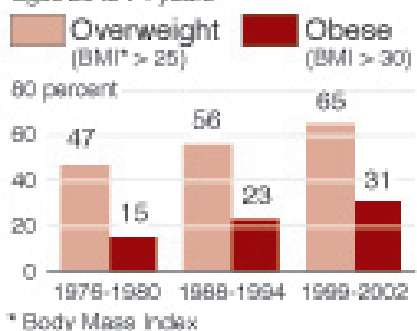
Soda surge

The percent of daily calories coming from soda rose more than 4 percent between 1977-78 and 1999-2001. Adult obesity prevalence more than doubled in a similar time period.

U.S. beverage consumption,
percentage of daily calories,
ages 2 and older



Overweight or obese adults,
age-adjusted prevalence in U.S.,
ages 20 to 74 years



SOURCES: National Center for Health Statistics; Census Bureau; Nielson & Popkin, 2004 AP

Lesson From College 101: Don't Insult Your Professor

(KRT)

Dear CO-STAR:

I purchased a laptop computer last quarter. Since buying it I've brought to class and taken notes on it every day. Up until recently none of my instructors have had a problem with it. But last week, I began raising questions about the way one of my classes was being taught, and specifically, the teaching ability of the instructor. Now that instructor has decided that laptops are no longer allowed in his classroom. I really believe that this rule was made in retaliation _ I'm the only student in the class that uses a laptop. I complained to the head of the department, and she was pretty non-committal, said that if a professor wanted to ban laptops, she couldn't stop him. This seems REALLY unfair. I spent \$2,000 on this thing and now I can't use it. What can I do?

Ryan, Junior, Public College or University, Washington

Ryan:

OK, here's a little tip from your Uncle C.L.: DON'T F---ING CHALLENGE YOUR PROFESSOR'S AUTHORITY IN FRONT OF THE CLASS! Why in the world would you do that? I don't care if your calculus professor can't add two and two. Raising your hand in class and saying "you suck" is just plain stupid.

What did you think was going to happen when you said these things? That your professor would finally see that he was, indeed, incompetent and resign on the spot? Or acknowledge that you had caught him and forever respect your honesty and ability to spot a fraud?

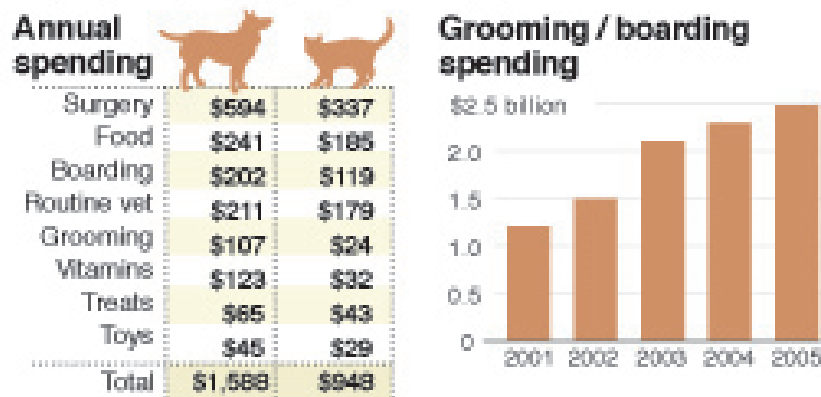
Because here's what did happen: You really, really pissed him off. And now he's making you pay.

Here's some more bad news: The Department Chair was right.

For more on this story visit
thetalon-online.com

Pampering pets gaining in popularity

Pets are getting the royal treatment more and more each year, with the majority of spending going to the dogs.



SOURCE: American Pet Products Manufacturers Association

AP

Frequent Culprits In ID Theft Are Friends, Family

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch) About half the people whose identities are stolen know the thief as family, friend or acquaintance, according to the FBI.

So chances for a confrontation would seem to be great, said Roland Corvington, special agent in charge of the St. Louis office.

Yet there appears to be no accounting, nor even a very strong idea among law enforcers, about how often ID theft leads to physical threats or worse. Said Corvington, "I sure don't have a sense of that."

Authorities do know one thing: ID theft is rampant. In 2003, it caused losses to individuals estimated at \$6.1 billion, Corvington said. The FBI estimates there are about 12 million new victims every year.

Typically, the thief obtains personal information, such as a Social Security number or date of birth, that makes it possible to obtain cash or make credit purchases. The victim is left with the unpaid bills and potentially wrecked credit.

The Federal Trade Commission reported last month that of some 686,000 fraud complaints filed by consumers in 2005, ID theft was the most common, accounting for 37 percent.

For more on this story visit
thetalon-online.com

20mg Equals The Possibility of Death

Josh Nolen

Kibbles and Bits, Kiddy Cocaine, Pineapple, Skippy, Smarties, Vitamin R, and West Coast are just a few of the street terms for a commonly known drug, Methylphenidate or Ritalin.

On Thursday, February 9, 2006, a Food and Drug Administration advisory panel voted 8-7 to recommend the FDA to provide the strongest type of warning on each bottle of prescribed stimulant drugs for Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, or ADHD. The FDA also recommended the committee look at possible studies to test to see if Ritalin and Adderall might increase the risk of sudden deaths, heart attacks, or strokes.

A report given to the committee before the meeting reported 25 children and adults had reportedly died suddenly after taking stimulant drugs prescribed for ADHD between 1999 to 2003.

Ritalin is a central nervous system (brain and nerves) stimulant, similar but stronger than caffeine. It is prescribed to millions of children each year who have been diagnosed with ADHD and many adults who suffer from narcolepsy. Ritalin is also used and abused for other purposes.

Ritalin increases levels of dopamine in the brain, stimulating attention and

motivational nerves allowing a person to focus and complete responsibilities. On average, a person's focus increases within the first hour of taking the first dose of Ritalin. It has a calming and focusing effect on ADHD, but has the opposite effect on a person who does not have ADHD.

"Students take Ritalin because it is an easy way to stay awake, but they do not realize what types of long term effects it has on your body," Avila University Nurse Carol Frevert said.

Side effects a person taking Ritalin may experience are an upset stomach, vomiting, loss of appetite, difficulty falling asleep/ staying asleep, headaches, weight loss, irritability, and mood swings. If a person experiences any of the following serious side effects, you need to stop taking Ritalin and alert your physician immediately: an allergic reaction (difficulty breathing, swelling of the lips, tongue, or face), an irregular heartbeat, very high blood pressure, unusual behavior, or liver damage (yellowing of the skin, nausea, abdominal pain, or unusual bleeding).

Ritalin has been a successful and effective medication for 40 years when it is taken as directed by a physician. Although it has been used correctly for many years, it is also abused by many teenagers to adults across the United States.

"Ritalin is not for everyone. It definitely works for me," freshman Lisa Burks said.

Normally Ritalin is taken orally in small dosages, but when it is abused larger amounts are consumed orally or crushed and snorted to experience a "cocaine-like high." Individuals who abuse Ritalin are putting their bodies at risk. Some of the risks include binge use, cardiovascular complications, and psychological addictions.

"One thing I worry about when students take Ritalin is that it is not being used for the right reasons. Students may or may not know the serious side effects Ritalin can cause such as seizures, hyperactivity, increased blood pressure and potentially death," Frevert said

Eighty to ninety percent of the world's Ritalin is consumed by Americans. Spending on ADHD drugs soared from \$759 million in 2000 to \$3.1 billion in 2004, according to IMS Health.

Easily accessible through online websites, family physicians, and purchasing them from friends who take the medications, teenagers, and adults are risking their lives by swallowing one pill. The next time you use Ritalin or Adderall for a non-medical related issue, ask yourself, is staying up all night and risking my life really worth it?

Eight Tricky Interview Questions

(KRT) Does the thought of going on a job interview cause your palms to sweat and your body to break out in hives? Stop itching; you're not alone.

The vast majority of job seekers admit to emotions ranging from mild uneasiness to downright panic leading up to their interviews. The good news is there have been no reported cases of job seekers who died of nervousness during a job interview. So relax and follow these simple tips for keeping your anxiety at bay before and during your interview.

First, take the proper amount of time to prepare for your interview. Being well-prepared will boost your confidence and lower your anxiety. Experts recommend that you spend at least three hours preparing for each interview.

You should draft answers to the most common interview questions and practice speaking them out loud. You also should read up on the company with which you will be interviewing and prepare some questions of your own. This lets the interviewer know that you are truly interested in the company and the position.

As a final step in your preparation, make sure you have good directions to the interview site. Some job seekers make a dry run to the interview site to ensure the directions are correct and to estimate the amount of time they will need to get to the interview on time.

Going into a job interview is often like entering the great unknown. Although

every interviewer is different and questions vary from industry to industry, there are some questions that are common across the board. Reading through the following questions and developing your own answers is a good place to start in your preparation. Once you have done that, remember practice makes perfect! Nothing impresses a potential employer like being ready for whatever is thrown your way.

WHY SHOULD WE HIRE YOU?

Here's the chance to really sell yourself. You need to briefly and succinctly lay out your strengths, qualifications and what you can bring to the table. Be careful not to answer this question too generically, however. Nearly everyone says they are hardworking and motivated. Set yourself apart by telling the interviewer about qualities that are unique to you.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO WORK HERE?

This is one tool interviewers use to see if you have done your homework. You should never attend an interview unless you know about the company, its direction and the industry in which it plays. If you have done your research, this question gives you an opportunity to show initiative and demonstrate how your experience and qualifications match the company's needs.

WHAT ARE YOUR GREATEST WEAKNESSES?

The secret to answering this question is being honest about a weakness, but demonstrating how you have turned it

into a strength. For example, if you had a problem with organization in the past, demonstrate the steps you took to more effectively keep yourself on track. This will show that you have the ability to recognize aspects of yourself that need improvement, and the initiative to make yourself better.

WHY DID YOU LEAVE YOUR LAST JOB?

Even if your last job ended badly, be careful about being negative in answering this question. Be as diplomatic as possible. If you do point out negative aspects of your last job, find some positives to mention as well. Complaining endlessly about your last company will not say much for your attitude.

DESCRIBE A PROBLEM SITUATION AND HOW YOU SOLVED IT.

Sometimes it is hard to come up with a response to this request, particularly if you are coming straight from college and do not have professional experience. Interviewers want to see that you can think critically and develop solutions, regardless of what kind of issue you faced. Even if your problem was not having enough time to study, describe the steps you took to prioritize your schedule. This will demonstrate that you are responsible and can think through situations on your own.

WHAT ACCOMPLISHMENT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?

The secret to this question is being specific and selecting an accomplishment that relates to the position. Even if your

greatest accomplishment is being on a championship high school basketball team, opt for a more professionally relevant accomplishment. Think of the qualities the company is looking for and develop an example that demonstrates how you can meet the company's needs.

WHAT ARE YOUR SALARY EXPECTATIONS?

This is one of the hardest questions, particularly for those with little experience. The first thing to do before going to your interview is to research the salary range in your field to get an idea of what you should be making. Steer clear of discussing salary specifics before receiving a job offer. Let the interviewer know that you will be open to discussing fair compensation when the time comes. If pressed for a more specific answer, always give a range, rather than a specific number.

TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF.

While this query seems like a piece of cake, it is difficult to answer because it is so broad. The important thing to know is that the interviewer typically does not want to know about your hometown or what you do on the weekends. He or she is trying to figure you out professionally. Pick a couple of points about yourself, your professional experience and your career goals and stick to those points. Wrap up your answer by bringing up your desire to be a part of the company. If you have a solid response prepared for this question, it can lead your conversation in a direction that allows you to elaborate on your qualifications.

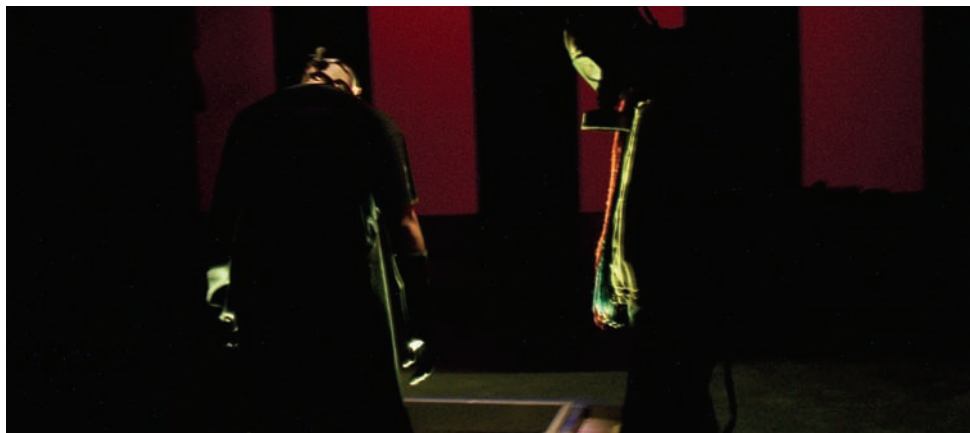
Drama Challenges the Theatre Department

Brittyn Reid

Capturing the intensity of the Holocaust presented difficulty for the cast and crew in the production of "The Grey Zone." The purpose of this show is to express the "Magnitude of evil that the Holocaust presents," said Dr. Charlene Gould, Dean of the College of Humanities and Performing Arts, also the director of The Grey Zone. An in-your-face drama about the sonderkommandos in Auschwitz, was performed during the last weekend of February.

The students had prepared for the show for over a month and a half. Preparing for the show, students endured many sacrifices, such as dedicating late hours to rehearsal.

"Four hours a night, every weeknight, plus the time I spend on my own, developing my character. So about twenty-two hours a week," explains freshman Andy Perkins.



Erin Stewart

The album I am most looking forward to this year is Taking Back Sunday's *Louder Now* it will be released on April 25. I have been an avid fan of the Long Island rock band for several years now. I have faith that this new album will be just as good as their others.



All the boys who played Jews, as opposed to the two who played Nazi's, had to shave their heads. For one male, senior Pete Weber, this was a drastic change; Pete had about fourteen inches of hair that he had to cut off, so he decided to donate it to 'Locks of Love.'

"I won't get to know who receives it, but I know that it is going to be, probably a child that is experiencing some sort of therapy. About eighty-five percent of the recipients are cancer patients," said Weber.

Other than lack of sleep and hair loss, first year student Michael Stolberg said, "It is tough, physically, and for this show especially, emotionally it is tough." This is a challenging show to perform, but the theatre department took it on and it has definitely proven to be a challenge.

Another challenge that is commonly run into is pulling the audience into the atmosphere. "It is not going to be a walk in the park. We hope to get the audience into the depths of hell." Perkins said.

This is a hard subject to convey to the audience, however it is an educational show as well, so just learning from the show is an anticipated reaction. Perkins said, "History repeats itself, unless we learn from it." Having the audience walk out with just a bit more knowledge would be a success.

Love Songs Gettin' Me Twisted

Kayle Walker

"I can't believe you're hurting me..." and "What's a girl to do when she's still on it..." may sound familiar to some of you and maybe even a little more familiar to a select few. If you have not picked them up yet, they are song lyrics. Song lyrics from songs that have been blaring through every stereo I have encountered in the past few days thanks to my recent "heartbreak." The lyrics are from popular love songs, Ashanti and Paul Wall's "Still on It" and Keisha Cole's "Love."

It seems almost ridiculous that anyone would listen to sappy love songs when they feel betrayed by love itself. Well, unfortunately I am not the only loser that looks to music for a little condolence, misery does love company and knowing that you're not the only idiot that's been screwed over (sometimes on countless occasions), makes you feel better some how.

I am not going to dip into my life at any extreme level, because we all know how touchy the subject of love can be, but I am going to tell you that love is the root of everything, including evil. Love is described in the dictionary in more than fifteen different ways, so if good ol' Webster has trouble defining it then I am not going to even try. I will tell you that I believe love is the beginning of everything, so much that I have considered tattooing the word "love" on my body. Not because of any one love, but because of many loves and without love I would have no existence.

"Love songs sure can get a guy messed up," a friend of mine said to me the other day. Musicians realize this themselves too, after all love songs are the money-making songs in the music industry. The pronoun "you" is the most widely used word in songs because that's exactly what they want you to think the song is about, you. In psychology they call it empathy, which means the ability to imagine oneself in another's place and understand the other's feelings, desires, ideas, and actions.

To support my suspicions I asked someone who has been studying the mind for a couple years. Albert Ingram, a junior psychology major agreed with much I had to say and also added that we subject ourselves to love because we know that's the key to happiness. "We search for love instead of waiting for it to come to us. Love finds us, we don't find love. Patience is a virtue in the search for love."

"Love songs are a way to ease the pain of being heartbroken." Ingram said. "They

bring you back to reality from the fairy tale we call love." Ingram also suggested that love songs are used as a teaching method to naive lovers. "It really paints a picture of relationships, both good and bad."

Have you ever been in a car with your friends and a love song comes on the radio and they immediately ask you to turn it up and fall hypnotically into the song? You may or may not have picked up on the significance of the song to the person, but usually when this happens to me I nudge the friend on the shoulder and ask "who's this one about" with a smirk. This is probably more common among girls because I doubt most guys enjoy listening to love songs when they are hanging out.

Ingram also filled me on the other side of the spectrum with the male point of love. "Guys struggle with experiencing love because they have been conditioned to push their emotions to the side, while women are able to deal with their deeper emotions and experience the full effect of love."

Maybe we turn to these love songs because they reveal that deep emotion inside of us that we can't quite explain ourselves and at the same time, they do it so beautifully. Maybe because although the pain just intensifies, in some sick way it feels good because you know you loved and you cannot wait to do it all over again.

The scary thing about love songs is they tend to force people to fabricate what is or was the relationship. People exaggerate on situations to make the relationship seem more fairy tale and drastic and who knows maybe it makes the coping easier.

I am not saying love songs are a good or bad way to manage failed love, nor am I saying that it's only for girls. Love songs can definitely get a person twisted, but they can also help ease the pain and speed up the depressing times. There are so many other ways to handle heartache. Talking with close friends is always easy, although they may become a little overwhelmed and bored. Then again that may not turn out to be all bad because it might actually speed up the healing process. There are also plenty of books that help you not repeat the same dating mistakes, I do own a couple of these books and although I think they are silly and quite entertaining, I'll have to admit the information is fairly useful. My all time personal favorite is writing. I write it down and I put it in the book of the past, luckily you just got to experience my coping methods first hand... chalk it up!

Song's that make Avila weak in the knees

"Cadillac Love" by Llyod
-Taneshia Cook

"Magic" by Charlie Wilson
-Nigel Geuther

"She's Gone" by Devin The Dude
-Albert Ingram

"First Love" by Aviant
-Nikki Kidwell

"All My Life" by K.C. and JoJo
-Brandon Kipp

"I Think" by 112
-Gary Porter

"I Swear" by Nick Lachey
-Ryan Sewitsky

"One Wish" by Ray J
-Jill Shadden

"Stay With You" by John Legend
-Chadd Rivera

"Have You Ever" by Brandy
-Kayle Walker

Reebok's New Graffiti-Inspired Shoes

Erin Stewart

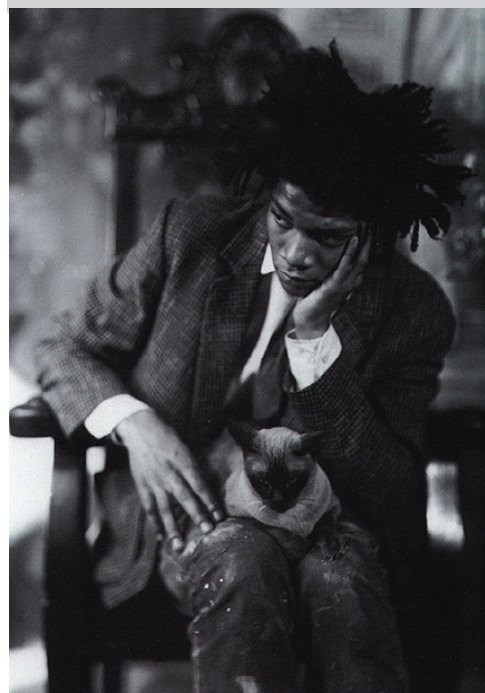
Recently, Reebok has come up with a new limited sneaker collection based on the famous designs of Jean-Michel Basquiat. Basquiat played a major role in the art scene during the 1980s. Most of Basquiat's works are graffiti inspired.

When Basquiat was 21, in 1982, he was introduced to Andy Warhol; he looked up to Warhol. They collaborated artistically and had a very close friendship that lasted until the mid 1980s. Basquiat died in 1988 of a drug overdose, he was only 27.



The Reebok sneakers are only made in a few colors. On the shoe's sole, Basquiat's signature crown and design appear. Written across the back of the shoe is Basquiat's name. The new line of sneakers are considered limited since they are made only in runs of 500.

To find out more about Jean-Michel Basquiat, visit basquiat.net. Watch store shelves for the new Basquiat Reebok collection.



Jean-Michel Basquiat.



Marci works with team to ready exhibit

"Prince of Pot" Plummet

Emily H

The "Prince of Pot" has been overthrown. Yes, on Friday March 3rd of 2006, Mr. Marc Emery was arrested and charged with the conspiracy of laundering money and distributing marijuana and marijuana seeds. These charges were brought about by a U.S. indictment that targeted his multimillion-dollar marijuana seed business. It was indeed a sad day for all pot-heads all over Canada and the U.S. alike. But really, what took the authorities so long with their "investigation" about his blatant illegal activities? The man had a web site with a huge banner that read, "The largest selection of marijuana seeds in the world," plus it mentioned that he happened to have more than 600 different strains from dozens of suppliers. Come on, you can't get more obvious than that. But I guess what do I know. The fact of the matter is that it took the American authorities 18 months before they could put two and two together and finally move in on the arrest of the 47 year old British Columbian. Just to clarify that this man was in a some-what stable financial situation, he claimed to make roughly three million dollars a year from selling his marijuana seeds online and by mail. So why for any reason is this the United States business? Three-fourths of Emery's seeds are sent to the U.S and have been linked to illegal growth operations in Florida, California, Tennessee, Montana, Virginia, Michigan, New Jersey and North Dakota. According to Rod Benson, the DEA's Seattle special agent in charge, Emery showed an "overwhelming arrogance and abuse of the rule of law." Are you serious? Of course the guy is going to abuse the law if he is going to sell an illegal product and make millions off of it. Especially if he is growing it in a place where it is actually legal, which makes it that much easier. So you might ask yourself the question, how could only one man run such an illegal multimillion-dollar business? He can't. He had two other men working with him and oh, were they ever so helpful. Their names were Gregory Williams and Michelle Rainey-Fenkarek, and they face the exact same charges as Emery does. The only other time Emery had to serve any time in jail was last fall when he simply resided in jail for sixty-one days. Now, if he is convicted of the crimes he is accused of he could face a sentence of at least ten years in prison. Since this powerful man and leader of marijuana is being taken away from society, then like it or not, someone in this society will take over his business and continue to make millions off of illegal substances. It's inevitable. Well, Emery's going down, the U.S. is losing a huge pot supplier, and all we have to do is wait for another "pot prince" to arise from the great land of Canada.

Who Wants To Watch Awards Being Given To Movies They Didn't See?

By Roger Moore
(KRT) Suppose they gave away Oscars, and nobody watched?

The year of movies that nobody went to is about to become an Oscar show that nobody watches. The Academy Awards are about to become the priciest "niche audience" telecast in history.

They are, a Los Angeles Times headline put it, movies with "depth" but not "breadth."

Seriously. The slide in ratings for the big telecast has been pronounced for years, and the number of viewers is very much connected to people sitting down to watch their favorite stars compete on something that isn't a skating rink or dance floor. What do you get when the acting nominees are all character players, and the movies are all "sleepers," code for profitable cheapies that few people saw?

When the producers of "Brokeback Mountain" feel compelled to let us know that they just became the top box office draw of the nominated films, passing "Crash," which has been out on DVD forever, and only after two solid months of being the only movie to generate any publicity at all, well, there's trouble in River City.

More people saw "Fahrenheit 9/11," a documentary, than saw any of the nominated films or performances. More people saw the penguin documentary. That's pathetic.

Granted, the major studios didn't exactly fill the multiplex with movies the award-oriented could get behind. And some of the very best work of the year was recognized. But teeny tiny movies from "Junebug" to "Hustle & Flow," "Capote" to "Syriana," produced the nominees. There's no "big movie" vs. "underdog small movie" competition when they're all small movies.

And the subject matter — pimps and pregnant Southern ninnies, chubby spies and TV anchors generations don't remember, gay writers, gay cowboys, a transvestite, race and racism, big oil and

big pharmaceuticals. ALL important. But history has proven Americans don't want to think that much about their entertainment. Tom Hanks can lead us onto the streets of "Philadelphia," but he can't make us stay for a double, triple or quadruple feature.

USA Today went after that idealistic notion that where Hollywood leads, audiences will follow. It probably won't happen. Yes, everybody's talking "Brokeback." It's in the lexicon, and it's still doing modestly well. But will we "quit" on the spit by March 5?

Or will it reach \$100 million and become, at least, an "English Patient" for the new millennium? That desert-love bore proved that the Oscars aren't a universal conversation starter when most moviegoers haven't seen your most honored movie. If the movies are to remain a part of the national/international dialogue, then the Oscars are going to have to be more representative than this.

It's enough to make one long for the bad old days, when Miramax was so adept at working the Oscars, rallying support for its chic films in the face of Hollywood's biggest and most bloated. Urge the mainstream to get better, yes. But it's not chic when everybody nominated has "indie" cachet and esoteric subject matter.

With all the surprises drained from this awards season and its relentless Hoffman/"Brokeback"/Ang Lee/Witherspoon wins in the pre-Oscars, that leaves us with an opening non-movie person Jon Stewart monologue (how very 2004), and hopefully Robin Williams or Celine Dion singing all three Oscar nominated songs — "In the Deep," from "Crash," "It's Hard out Here for a Pimp" from "Hustle & Flow," and "Travellin' Thru," from "Transamerica." I'm keeping my fingers crossed for Celine.

The guy who nicknamed the Oscars "the gay super bowl" was more right than he could have known. But who tunes in when its Charlotte vs. San Diego, worse yet, when San Diego's favored by five touchdowns?



Hustle & Flow's signature song "It's Hard Out Here As A Pimp" wins Oscar for best song.

Digital Music Fans: Should You Rent Or Buy?

(KRT) Ask Frank Ginis of Troy, Mich., about online music services a year ago and he could not have cared less.

His collection of CDs, ranging from classical to jazz to blues to show tunes, kept him more than entertained. He didn't own a digital music player. He didn't plan to download music.

But in the past 12 months, all that has changed. He got an MP3 player as a freebie when buying some cellular phones. And while Ginis, 42, still prefers CDs when purchasing albums, he's now shopping for a good music service to use for singles.

"There are certain songs that I like that I don't want to buy an entire CD for," he said. "I'd like to be able to play those songs when I like, because they aren't on the radio too often. I'm just looking for stuff I can burn on a CD. I can't imagine I'll be a download junkie ... but you never know."

Fortunately, Ginis has a pile of alternatives for finding that copy of Todd Rundgren's "Hello It's Me" and the other two dozen songs he's looking for. (iTunes alone has a couple dozen versions of the track.) Music services, whether they rent you a song for a month or let you keep it forever, have become part of the American entertainment landscape.

One sign that the selection out there is maturing is that you've now got two choices when you go to buy music downloads: You can rent them by the month, or buy them and keep them forever. Some services offer both options.

Rented music acts just like the real thing _ it sits on your hard drive, where you can play it whenever you want. Services like Napster to Go even let you download it to compatible MP3 players, so you can take it with you. But like your electric service, if you fail to pay your bill, at the end of the month the lights go out _ your tunes will no longer play.

Purchased songs are yours to keep forever, but even they might have some limitations. Some can only be listened to on a limited number of computers or portable players. Some can only be burned onto a CD once.

Others allow unlimited personal use _ including just about the entire collection of

Audio Lunchbox, a nifty alternative music service.

If your music tastes change often _ you get into a song, love it and then are ready to leave it after a while _ then renting music is something you should seriously consider. Rental is much cheaper than buying tunes because you have access to the service's entire catalog _ Napster to Go has 1.5 million songs, for example _ at any time. (A basic Napster subscription runs about \$10 a month; Napster to Go, which allows you to take the tunes on a portable player, runs about \$15.)

But if you love your songs and plan to keep them forever _ even as your budget and your attention shifts to other things _ you might consider sticking with a pay-as-you-go plan. Most services charge about 99 cents a song or \$9.99 an album for music, thanks in part to Apple's industry-leading iTunes price plans.

Nathan Bomey, 21, a senior at Eastern Michigan University, used Napster through the university's cheap agreement with them before switching to iTunes. He listens to contemporary Christian and Top 40 music in his car, walking around campus and working out at the campus recreation center.

"It was a nice experiment ... With Napster, you can't keep the songs permanently. I didn't see the point in renting the songs. It was nice being able to get a taste of every song, but I generally know what songs I like, what artists I like," he said. "iTunes isn't perfect, but it seems to supply better options for me."

There are notable holes in the collections of all the music services. While you'll find two dozen versions of that Todd Rundgren song, you're not going to find much from the Beatles. That's because some bands, or their publishers, haven't made deals that cover digital music rights.

Out-of-print songs, including older versions of your favorites, are typically not available. Think of the major services as incredibly complete big box stores of music: You're not going to find everything there, and there isn't anyone around to help you track down obscure tunes. For those, you're better off searching sites like eBay for original CDs or LPs.

Apple IMac Is Simply The Best

(KRT) Apple's new iMac running the new Intel Core Duo microprocessor is the finest, most reliable, stable, elegant and intuitive personal computer available anywhere.

There. I don't think I could say it any more clearly.

The new MacBook Pro laptops, which are expected to start shipping this month, will be four times as fast as Apple's previous PowerBook laptops, run cooler and have longer battery life.

This new iMac, which marks the first time Apple has used Intel chips to power its machines, is simply astounding. As multimedia and digital entertainment becomes more mainstream, you will find no other machines as well suited to create, edit and display audio and video materials.

I have been testing a new 20-inch iMac with the Intel chip right next to a G5 iMac that came out last fall with the older PowerPC chip.

I hit the start buttons on the two machines at the same time and ran a stopwatch three times. The Intel machine was up and running in an average of 24 seconds. The G5 version took 72 seconds.

Web pages loaded faster, pictures and video images appeared quicker, scrolling through documents and spreadsheets was smoother and the whole feel of the machine felt more nimble than the already impressive G5.

In appearance, it's impossible to see a difference between the two. Both come with the built-in high-resolution iSight Web camera. The thin white plastic case that contains the entire computer is supported on a brushed aluminum stand that makes it appear to be suspended in air. Both have standard Bluetooth and Wi-Fi connections and all the ports and the CD/DVD slot are in the same places.

Even the cost is the same. Apple very wisely did not boost the price for these new Intel models. A 17-inch iMac with all the standard software and the iLife suite costs \$1,299. The 20-inch version is \$1,700.

Those thinking about replacing an older PC should look at these iMacs and consider dumping Windows, unless you are heavily invested because of work or special situations in PC games or proprietary programs for which there is no corresponding Apple version.

The Intel chips offer immediately noticeable improvements in speed on some applications, up to twice as fast.

But making a great machine even better is a suite of upgraded applications called iLife '06 that take advantage of these new Intel chips and deliver such vast improvements in digital imaging and multimedia programs that no programs on any other platform can even be called rivals.

Apple's switch to Intel microprocessors (think of the microprocessor as your computer's brain and the Core Duo works like two brains) opens up the very distinct

possibility that you will also be able to run Windows programs on these Macs, as soon as Apple upgrades its Windows XP operating system to the new Vista system late next fall.

But the Intel chips on a Mac offer more tangible and immediate benefits. Speed is one. The desktop iMacs run twice as fast.

The speed increase offered by the Intel chips applies to software that has been rewritten to take advantage of the new Core Duo chips. Older software written for the PowerPC chips that power other Macs runs at about the same speeds as before or even a tad faster thanks to a behind-the-scenes translation program called Rosetta.

Most Mac software is now being rewritten for the chips, so the speed advantage is only going to become more apparent. You'll recognize the new software because it will be stamped with a "Universal" sticker, indicating it has been optimized for Macs powered by either PowerPC or Intel.

Released with the new Intel-powered Apple computers is an updated suite of digital lifestyle programs called iLife '06. It consists of five very powerful applications.

iPhoto: Because of the new power in those Intel chips, this digital photo management and editing program can now support an unbelievable 250,000 images.

The editing tools are fast and can be viewed in full screen, but these photos can now easily be "photocast" _ shared through the Web _ and compiled into custom calendars, cards and photobooks.

GarageBand: Apple has upgraded this hugely popular music creation program and added the most easy-to-use podcast features I've seen, complete with sound effects, jingles and narration features.

I did all the recent Super Bowl podcasts on www.freepress.com with GarageBand. Run on an Intel Mac, GrageBand is screamingly fast.

iMovie HD : This digital video editing application now outputs in high definition. It also has real-time Hollywood effects and titling features that can take those vacation or dance recital home videos you shoot and make them look like they were professionally done. This application is so easy to use you hardly need to read the directions. It can also produce video podcasts.

iDVD : This is a DVD-authoring application. There are new themes and drag-and-drop ways to burn photos and videos into ready-to-play DVD productions. It works in widescreen, too.

iWeb: This is the brand-new program in iLife '06. It's a very intuitive Web site creation program that can do traditional Web sites, blogs, videoblogs and podcasts.

It seamlessly interfaces with Apple's .Mac Web hosting service but can also be exported to your own domain.

If you've never done a Web page or blog, this one will do all the behind-the-scenes programming for you.



Nathan Bomey, 21, has built a digital music collection through Napster and iTunes. (Romain Blanquart/Detroit Free Press/KRT)

Avila Students Push Politics

Emilee Eveler

Imagine waking up thirty years from now. The world has totally changed and has been replaced by a plethora of new leaders, laws and legislation. How did this happen?

This may seem like a science fiction movie, but it could become a reality if young adults are unconcerned or uninvolved with politics and the policies of the present day that will affect lives in the future. Opinions and attitudes do matter!

To most young adults, government and politics are not the most enticing or exciting subjects. It is important to become knowledgeable and work to help resolve current issues to better the future of Americans. Talking with students at Avila University about their views and concerns produced some local insight about the government.

Aaron Jackson, a graphic design major at Avila University, has some very strong views on how he thinks our government is behaving. "Our nation has moved backwards in the last fifty years and our leadership has stopped paying attention to the people and are only concerned with personal gain," Jackson declared with absolute conviction, "It is an administration based on fear and I think Bush is not a good president, he never says anything inspiring." Jackson also commented that foreign policy and the war in Iraq is a big worry.

Jackson's perception of the Bush administration is something that another student, Alison Fieber, also a graphic design major and political science minor, shares with him.

"Knowing something about current politics is an important issue to talk about with others," Alison says. When asked about how she felt about Bush she replied, "It is headed towards dictatorship, Bush does what he wants and so will future leaders." She thought healthcare to be a major issue and concern right now.

These are just two students' views on current politics but others at Avila were also eager to comment. Abijah Sanders, an English major, who voted in the last election has a different opinion of Bush. "I think that he's a decent president and is doing a good job in office. He's only trying to help," Sanders said. Although he was in approval of Bush, Sanders did not agree with some other issues and spoke sternly about them. "I don't agree with spying on ordinary American citizens and heightened surveillance powers." He thinks that the Patriot Act is a major issue at hand, needing revision.

When confronted and asked about the government and current issues, these students at Avila had much to say. Surprisingly enough, there were some that didn't have a whole lot to talk about.

Gina Salviano, an elementary education major, seemed to have little knowledge of politics but she still had something to say. "I guess that our president is doing a good job, I don't really see much wrong with how he's running our country but I also don't have anything to back that up," she said as she shrugged her shoulders.

According to a recent poll by Harvard University's Institute of Politics, out of 1206 students surveyed, more young people turned out in greater numbers in the last election than compared with previous years. The survey also concluded that college students are concerned with a variety of issues including Social Security, foreign policy and not adhering to the traditional labels of "conservative" or "liberal", instead illuminating a considerable population of independents.

This survey does shed some light and gives some glimmer of hope that young adults are more active in voting and concerned with the future. It is those who are involved and who are focused that can change the perception and direction of this country. Young adults will be the next generation's leaders, so stay current, get involved, and make a difference. Now.

What Is Really Goin' On

Reginald King

Students here at Avila University are often wondering what there is to do around campus. At Avila, the college experience is much different than the one most of us planned to have before we came here. We knew this was a small school but most of us had no idea that it would be short on fun or things to do.

One of the biggest problems with student participation in events is the exposure to information about events that are going on. Every Wednesday we have something called Purple Wednesday. What is it? No one ever seems to participate in it. Men's basketball players Michael Johnson and Harold Cade said "they never even heard of Purple Wednesday and don't even know the meaning of it." Lack of awareness is an indication of poor school spirit.

Our homecoming wasn't even given the publicity that would be expected for a school's biggest week of the year. I received two emails notifying me it was homecoming. There was nothing special about what was going on that week and

if there, no one seemed to know or care. Students would take a lot more pride in showing school spirit if activities were promoted more heavily than they are. Homecoming would be more appealing to the students if they were made to feel a part of it. There is nothing that happens through the week like parades, parties, and dances. If we had more student oriented events, homecoming would be a much more enjoyable week for the students because the week is for them anyway.

Sports home games are not highlighted either. Avila has some of the lowest attendance ratings in its conference. Even when sports teams are having good seasons they still struggle to have fan support from the student body. It seems that we don't even have a home court advantage at our basketball and football home games. The athletic programs could catch the attention of students by making a student section at the games giving the students more ownership of the team.

for more go to thetalon-online.com

COMMENTARY

War Of Words On Ice!!!!

Micheal Johnson

Shani Davis made Olympic history on February 18th 2006 by becoming the first black person to win an individual gold medal in Winter Olympic history. This seems to be a great accomplishment right? Well maybe to Davis, but Davis accomplishments are far from being American-like to some, Davis decision not to join the team pursuit did nothing but spark a feud with teammate Chad Hedrick and media. Shani Davis is accused by teammates and media as being selfish. Davis turned down an invitation to participate in the team pursuit, which would have given Hedrick a chance at five gold medals. Instead, Davis wanted to concentrate on his individual heat. According to indystar.com, Davis was quoted as saying, "this is once every four years and there's no telling if you'll ever have this opportunity again." Later he goes on to say, "I did what I had to do...What greater reward than to fulfill a childhood dream".

Davis won the men's 1,000-meter speed skating race, followed by American Joey Cheek, Hedrick finished in sixth place. According to Keithboykins.com Hedrick was quoted as saying, "Once Shani beat me, I didn't care if I got a bronze, I'm here to win. It's all or nothing." It's as if Hedrick is saying its ok for me to concentrate on personal accomplishment, but not for Shani Davis. Hedrick also was chasing history with a chance to match Eric Heiden's record of five Winter Olympic gold medals. Hedrick believed with Shani on the team pursuit the Americans had a chance at the gold; instead, they ended up finishing 3rd. Hedricks seemed to go on and on about how unpatriotic Davis was, even after the race was over.

The bigger question seems to be, why Hedrick more than anyone else, had so much animosity toward Davis. Winning 5 gold medals was far from realistic, being that Davis was the record holder in the 1,000 meter event. Maybe he needed Davis to tire to give him a chance, at least that's

what people say may have been Hedrick only chance at winning. Even so, Hedrick still finished 6th in the event. According to Keithboykins.com on February 18th 2006, after the 1,000 meter race they asked if he was happy for Shani Davis, Hedrick instead replied: "I'm happy for Joey."

This debate has gone as far as people saying it's only because Shani Davis is black, that he's seen as being selfish. Joey Cheek, whom Hedrick congratulated for finishing second in the 1,000 meters didn't participate either. How come Cheek isn't considered selfish, there were other white skaters out there, why weren't they singled out, why is Shani Davis being attacked for doing something in which the Winter Olympics is all about, individual accolades? Others say we should look at the Olympic committee; they decided to put the team pursuit right in the middle, instead of the end of all the events. Grad student Nikki Lincoln says, "I don't think Shani Davis is wrong for focusing on his individual heat, I think that people are trying to make this a black and white issue. Davis was the only skater that was pointed out, there were other white skaters who didn't race. Was it a race thing, I don't know, but this whole thing is petty."

In the end, there's a battle for right and wrong. Davis a black racer felt that by winning would encourage other minorities to join. Davis never was the type to join in with the others, maybe that's taken by others as Davis being arrogant. The Olympics are about both individual and team accolades, but being an American, especially when dealing with sports is all about unity. When we hold that flag we hold it as a whole. Every individual medal that's raised represents the USA forever and every team event represents the USA forever.



Avila Spirit M.I.A.

Jasmine Williams

The men's basketball game was interesting. The team played well but the other aspects of the game were not what I expected. From attending other basketball games, the team spirit or lack thereof was surprising. This being my first Avila game, I don't know if I came on the wrong team spirit night or if this was the "norm."

The cheerleaders did not seem too coordinated. While doing their pyramids one of the groups kept dropping their teammate. Several times they were too busy having side conversations and never realized when The Eagles scored with some outrageously good plays. It got to the point, the basketball players (on the bench) had to remind them, they were there to cheer. I'm not sure what was going on but maybe they were just having a bad night. Personally, I am used to seeing the cheerleaders control the atmosphere of the whole game, especially a home game. That's all the more reason to keep your players on top.

The cheerleader's performance was not the only thing I saw that I did not agree with. During timeouts they would play

country music or a band that not every one is familiar with. I have seen schools play all the latest released music from hip/hop to rap, to R&B to rock. The meaning of playing those types of music, is to get the players and the audience into the game, to keep everyone hyped and unwilling to leave. I arrived after halftime and stayed until the end of the game and saw about 4 people leave or just talk to their neighbor. Those who were talking to their neighbor would then raise their heads when they heard the rest of the crowd get loud over a good play.

The gym was practically empty so I know it's hard to get your crowd into it with only approximately 50-100 people in the stands. When you get your audience in the game, the word spreads for future gas. Since I did not have a very good time I would refrain from inviting my friends to see the game, maybe next time I will get better experience. My mind is always open to new experiences, so come on Eagles soar beyond your past experiences and attend those games, cheer on our cheerleaders and players.

A Few Kind Words to Pres. Bush

Dear Mr. President,

I would just like to say thank you. After hurricane Katrina put so many lower income families out on the streets in Louisiana and we face another budget crisis I am glad to see that you have put together a plan that will help remedy the biggest deficit this nation has ever seen. Cutting student loans, health care, food stamps and foster care is a great way to save the government money. Looking to the war in Iraq that has cost billions of dollars would be ignorant and re-examining a tax cut that benefits the top 1% of wealthiest earners would only cause your good buddies (and campaign contributors) a headache. So thank you for making it ever harder for struggling families and students who want to better themselves get an education. Oh well, I guess an education is overrated even though statistics have shown that to get a decent job in the United States you have to have a college degree. Don't stress your daughters have nothing to worry about.

I have said for a long time that the budget needs to be balanced. It used to be balanced when Clinton was in office but he cheated on his wife so everything he did is completely void. Therefore, I am glad to see that a bill has been passed that estimates to cut \$39.7 billion over the next five years. I know that the most logical place to look for cuts was in programs that don't affect your family or any of your friends that's why it makes sense for \$12.7 billion of the cuts to come from students loans. Please, like anyone you know needs to take out a loan for college. That's why you're a Republican not a Democrat, dah!! All those

other families will be directly effected because of an immediate 28 % increase in interest rates charged for Stafford loans to students and PLUS loans for parents. The rational of these cuts becomes even clearer when considering that education has been regarded as the great equalizer in American society. Because a college degree dramatically increases lifetime earnings making student aid one of the United States' most sound investments. I can tell you truly believe the slogan "no child left behind" I also know you think about the lower class and the division in society because like you once said you saw them on TV.

I also love that you have stayed consistent with your campaign message all through out your presidency. Your platform of family values is highlighted through your consistent plans to make life harder for working men and women. I guess we shouldn't care that the pockets of the wealthy continue to inflate while the pockets blue collar families continue to tighten because gay people in America can't get married and Saddam Hussein was captured. So thanks again for making it harder for the majority of society to get an education and better themselves. At least I don't have to worry about my right to bear arms being infringed upon while you're in office.

Thanks,
Caitlin Stephenson

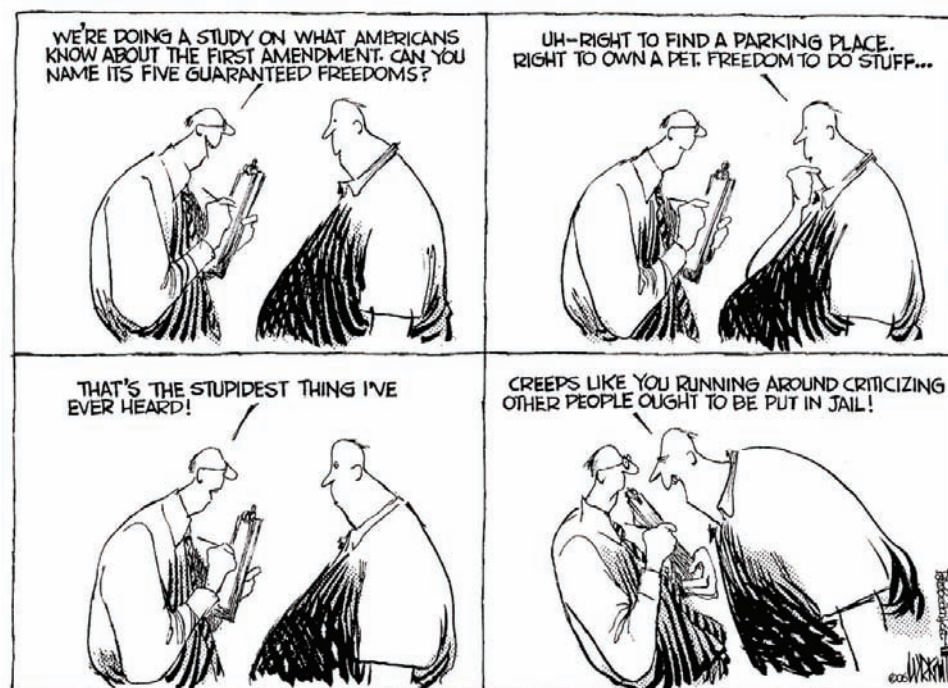
Parking Problems Prevail

Micheal Johnson

Let's face it, Kansas City is freezing Cold, and the wind that blows here seems similar to that of the windy city. I mean, can we get a couple days around 50 degrees? No says Mother Nature, so it's like 20, 18, 15 degrees the majority of the time. So for those who live off campus, most of them have to walk seemingly miles just to get to class due to the limited number of parking spaces. On campus students aren't safe either, because as soon as they leave to go somewhere, there are the off campus students angrily waiting to take that space off their hands. There isn't nearly enough parking space for students near the dorm area, and the area closest to the gym is just as bad. Seemingly, those are the two areas that appear to be used most by the students. The parking in front of the school is enough, but it's so distant from the school. Nobody I know has classes in the admissions office. Why can't we have parking closer to the areas where we go the most? Sophomore Brett Schmitt says, "Avila drastically needs to expand the parking area and make more,

but at the same time where?" That's a good question.

The parking available for the games played in the gymnasium is ridiculous. The people at night school seem to take all the parking there So the times when there are games of high magnitude or even the ones that aren't, the majority of the fans have to park outrageously far. Then they have to walk from the front end of the school in the freezing cold weather just to get to the games. Lets be real, the parking is full and there are only a handful of fans at the games, that's the most annoying part. It would be frightening to see what the parking areas would look like if the games were sold out, or even if the school had a drastic enrollment of students. John De Roo says, "I think it is adequate but of course we could use more". Parking is only a pain now, but in the near future I can definitely see it causing major problems, especially if enrollment and fan support at games are expected to increase.



A College Girl Named Joe

by Aaron Warner



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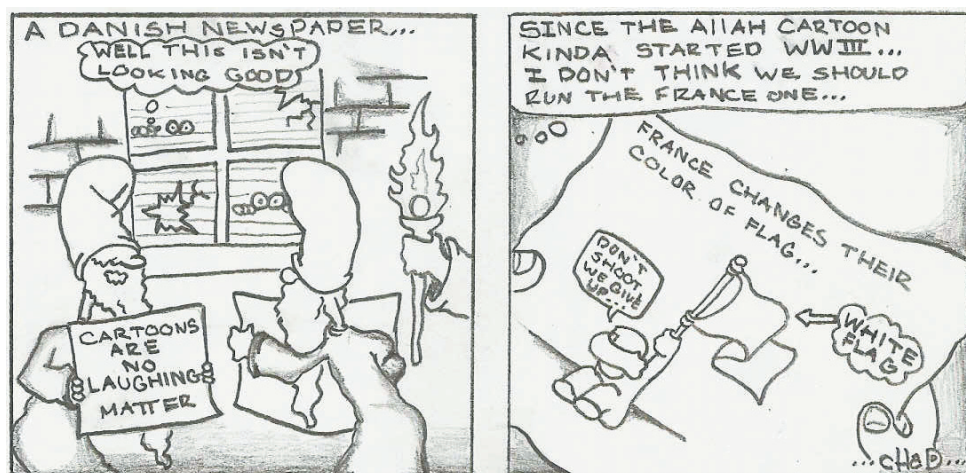
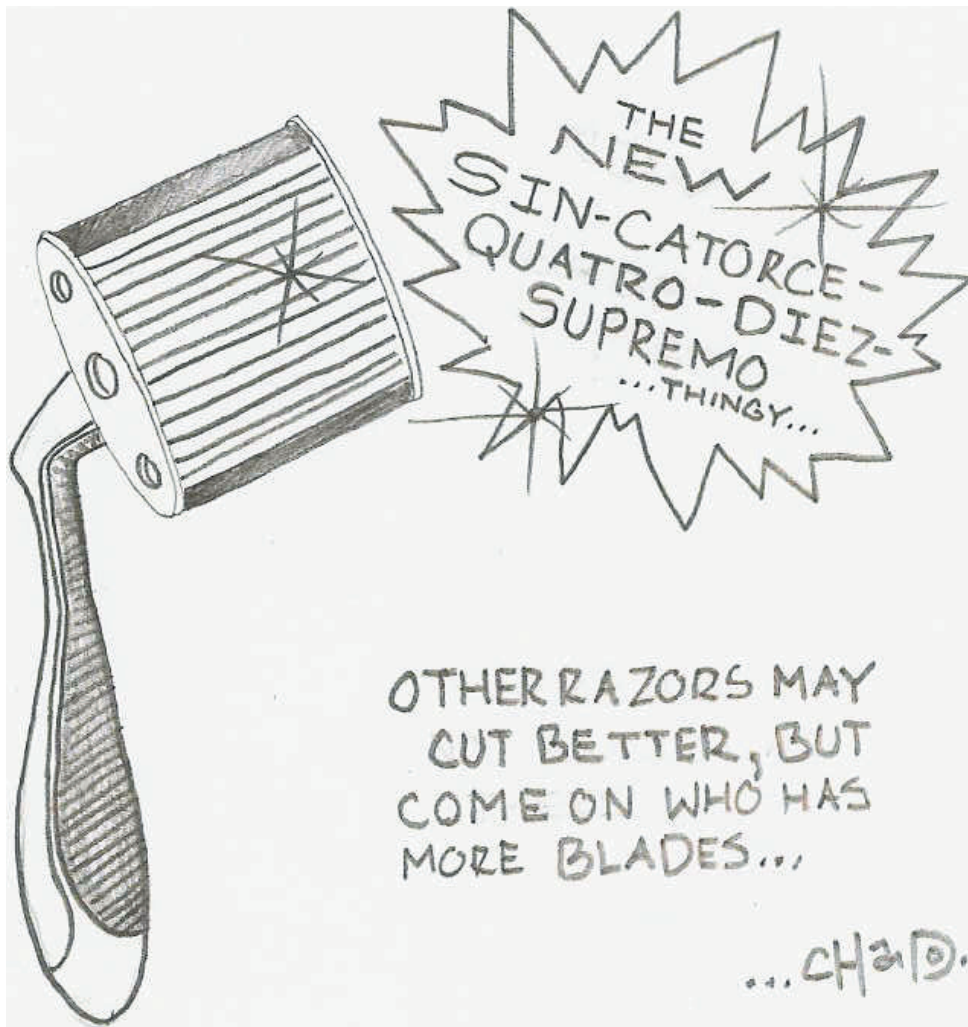
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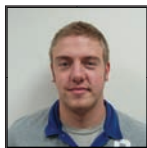
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TALON

N E W S M A G A Z I N E



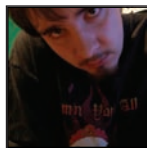
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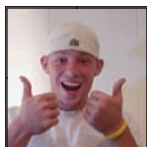
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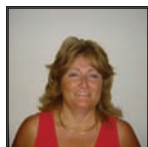
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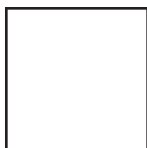
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Cartoonist



Janine Urness
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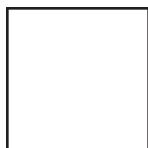
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This Could
Be You



This Could
Be You



This Could
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This Could
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Editorial Policy

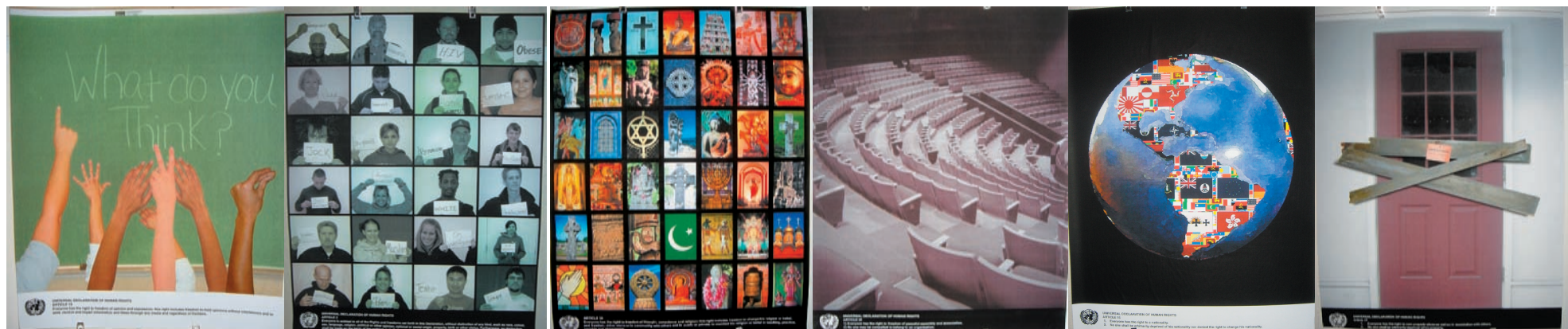
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Nez's Photo Quiz

Find the 12 changes in the picture below. E-mail them to talon-news-network@excite.com, the first correct entry will win a 256MB flash drive. Good Luck



A don't miss exhibit of student work: Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Dallavis Lobby